20 YEARS
AGO

LOOK,
DEOKBAE!

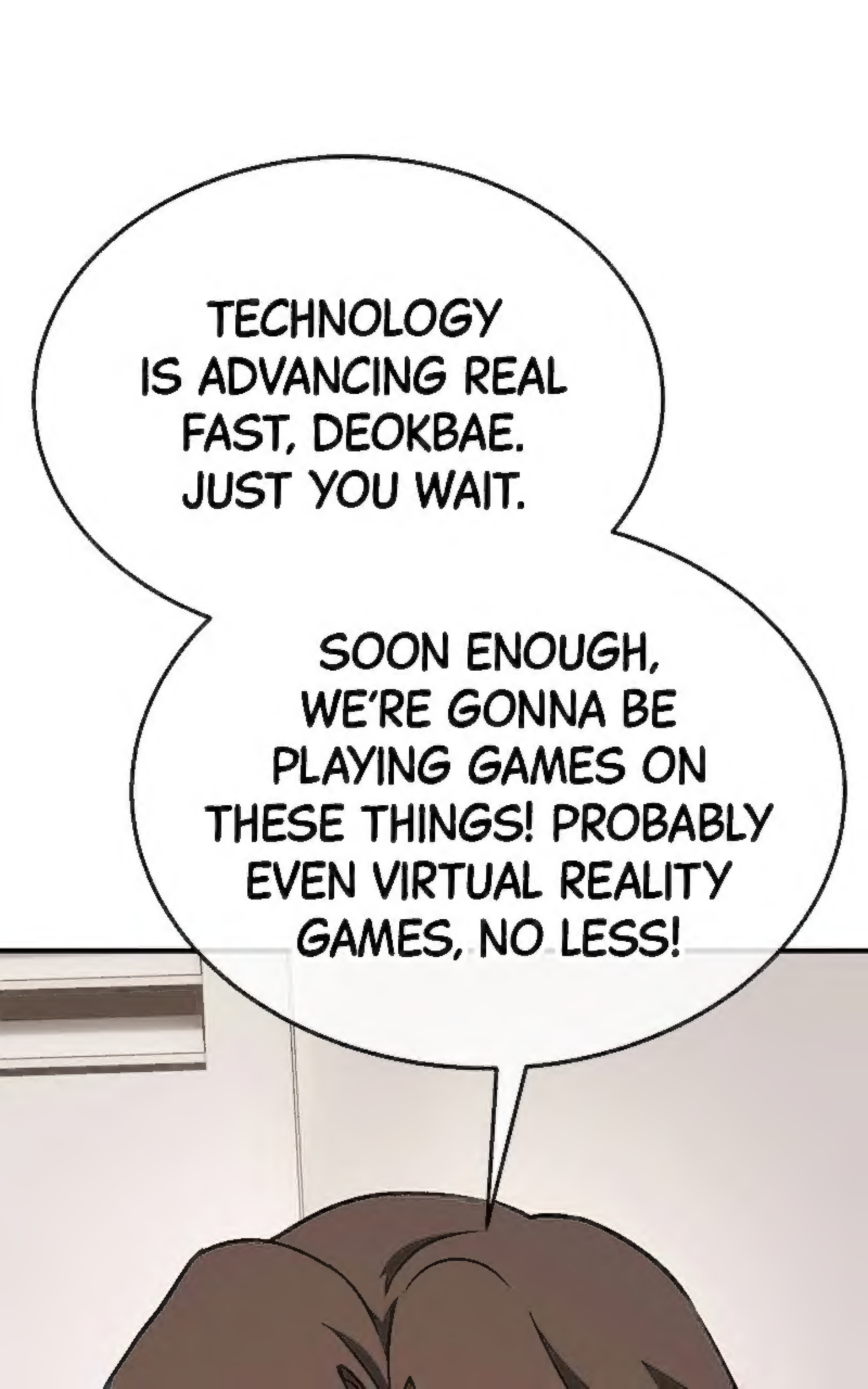
IT'S CALLED A SMARTPHONE!

WHOA,
THIS IS PRETTY
COOL.

IS IT A TOUCHSCREEN?

UGH,
THAT'S WHAT
YOU'RE FOCUSED
ON?!

LOOK, YOU
CAN ADD A BUNCH
OF PROGRAMS
ON IT!


TECHNOLOGY IS ADVANCING REAL FAST, DEOKBAE. JUST YOU WAIT.
SOON ENOUGH, WE'RE GONNA BE PLAYING GAMES ON THESE THINGS! PROBABLY EVEN VIRTUAL REALITY GAMES, NO LESS!

I JUST KNOW
THAT DAY'S GONNA

COME! AND WHEN IT DOES, WE'RE GONNA MAKE OUR OWN GAME!

IF YOU SAY SO, HYEON-JUNG. I TRUST YOU.

AND
GAMES ARE
ALWAYS GONNA BE
FUN, NO MATTER
WHAT!

WE JUST GOTTA FOCUS ON MAKING THE BEST GAME OUT THERE.

LET'S MAKE THE BOSS A HUGE DINOSAUR!
AGAIN WITH THE DINOSAUR CRAP? WHY'RE YOU SO DEAD SET ON MAKING IT A DINOSAUR?
EVERYONE DOES DRAGON BOSSES. WE GOTTA STICK OUT FROM THE CROWD!
YOU'RE SMART, BUT YOU'VE GOT TERRIBLE TASTE, DUDE!

CHRONO PROJECT
TECH EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
HYEON-JUNG
YU
CHRONO PROJECT
GENERAL EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
DEOKBAE
CHOI

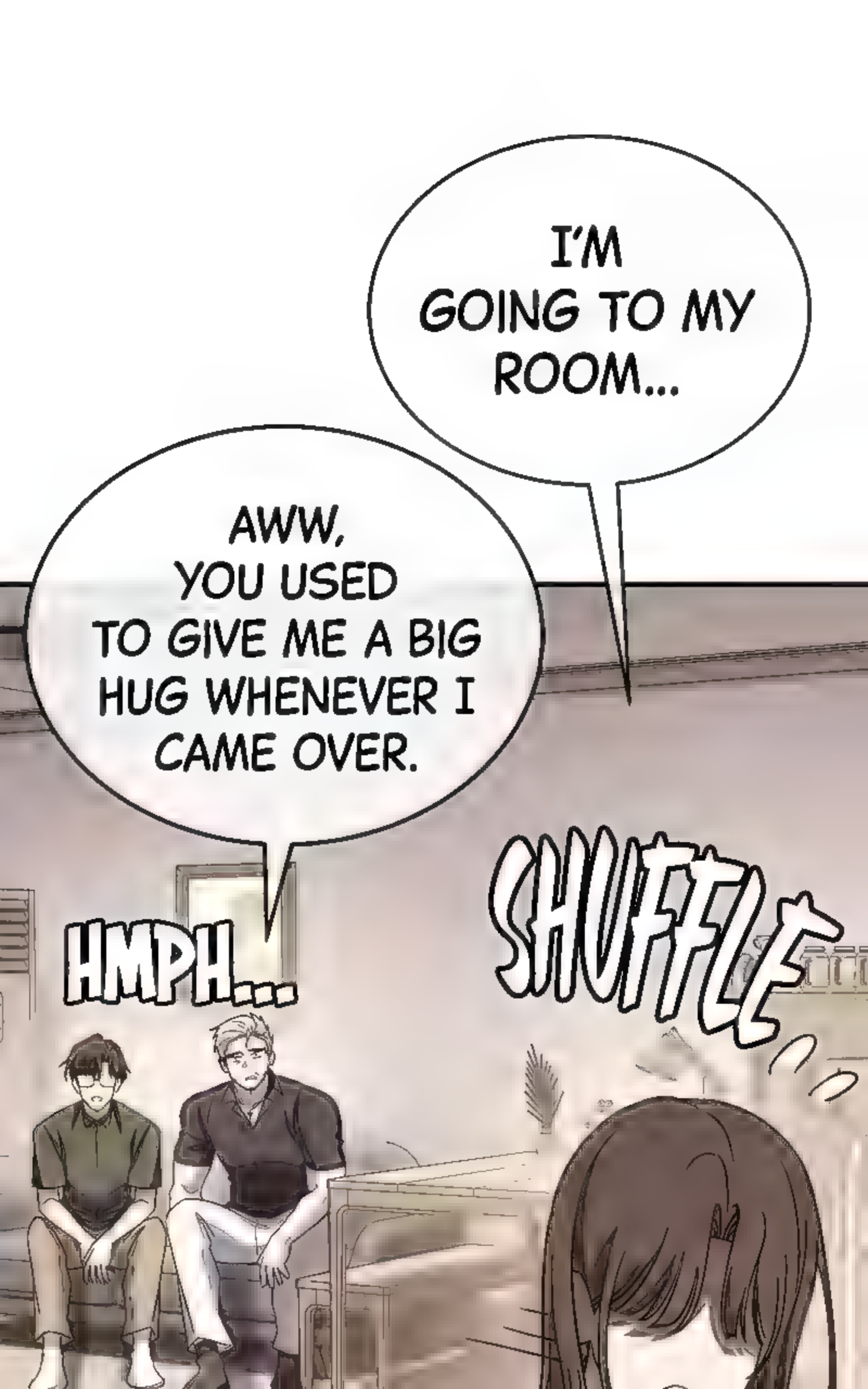
DING

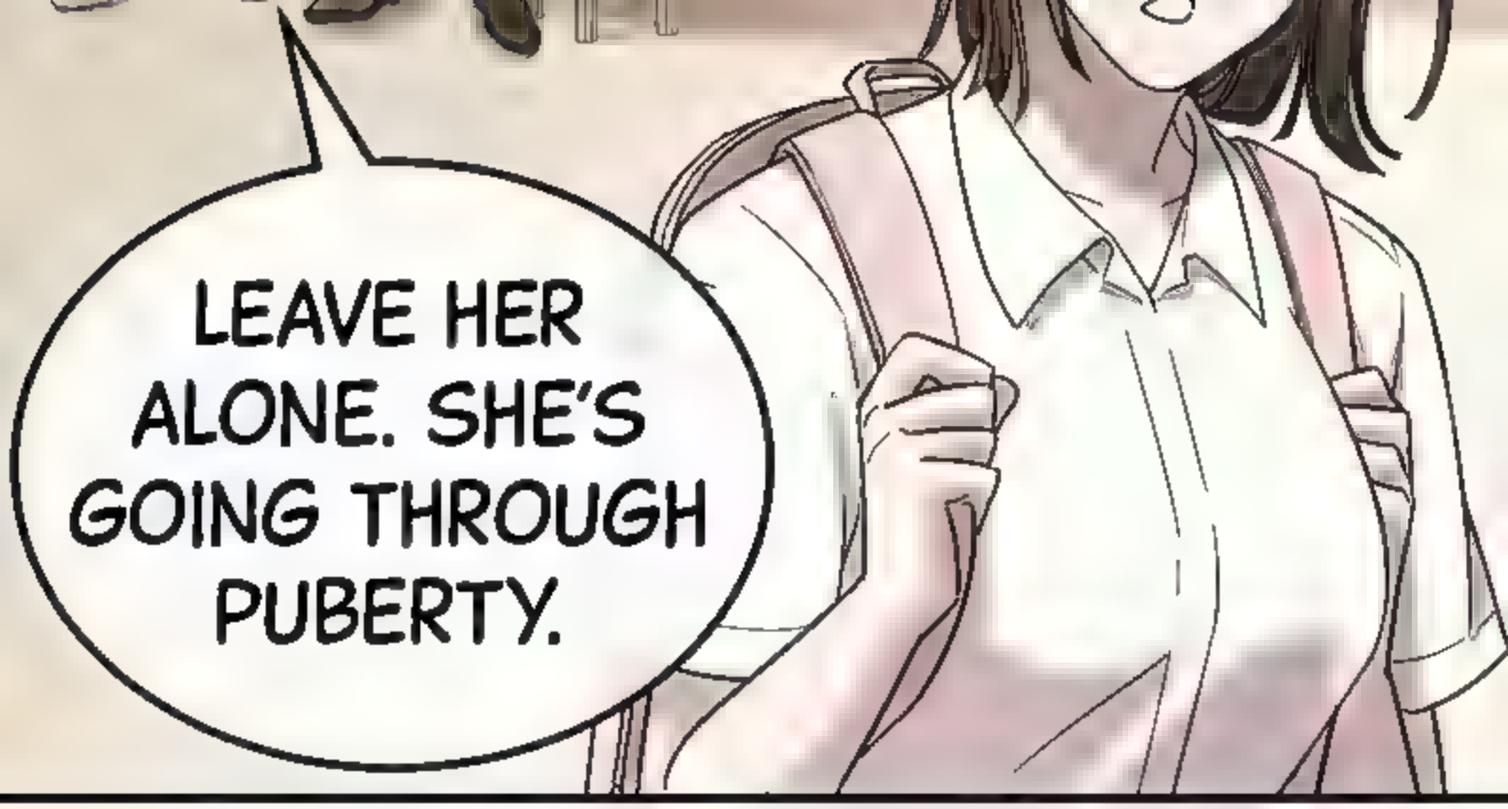
I'M HOME...

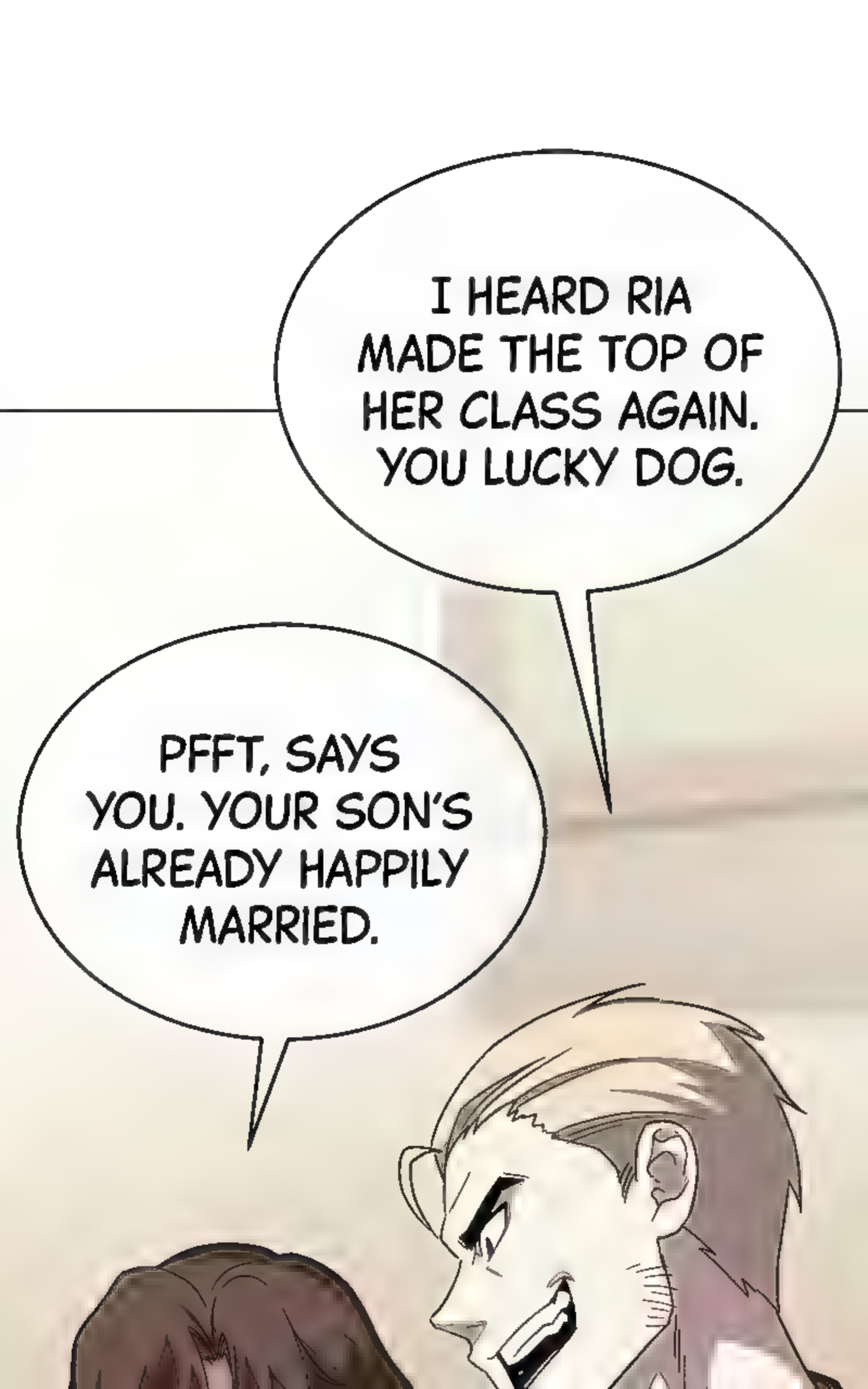
RIA! YOUR FAVORITE UNCLE'S HERE! HOW WAS SCHOOL?
RIA, MY SWEETHEART! SAY HI TO YOUR UNCLE.

OH...
HI, UNCLE...

RIA YU
(MIDDLE SCHOOL,
SECOND YEAR)

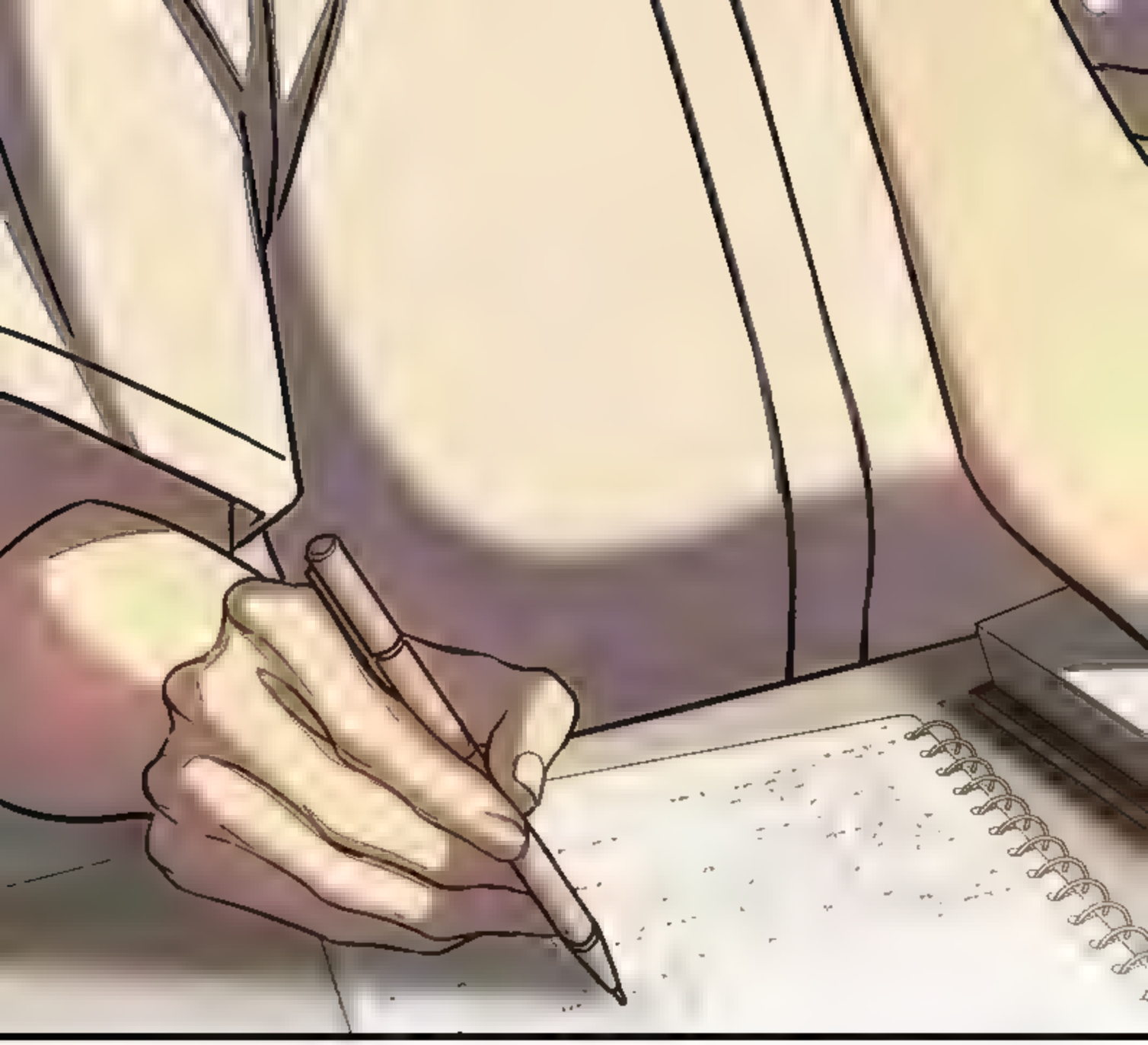

I'M GOING TO MY ROOM...
AWW, YOU USED TO GIVE ME A BIG HUG WHENEVER I CAME OVER.
HMPH...
SHUFFLE


LEAVE HER ALONE. SHE'S GOING THROUGH PUBERTY.


I HEARD RIA MADE THE TOP OF HER CLASS AGAIN. YOU LUCKY DOG.
PFFT, SAYS YOU. YOUR SON'S ALREADY HAPPILY MARRIED.

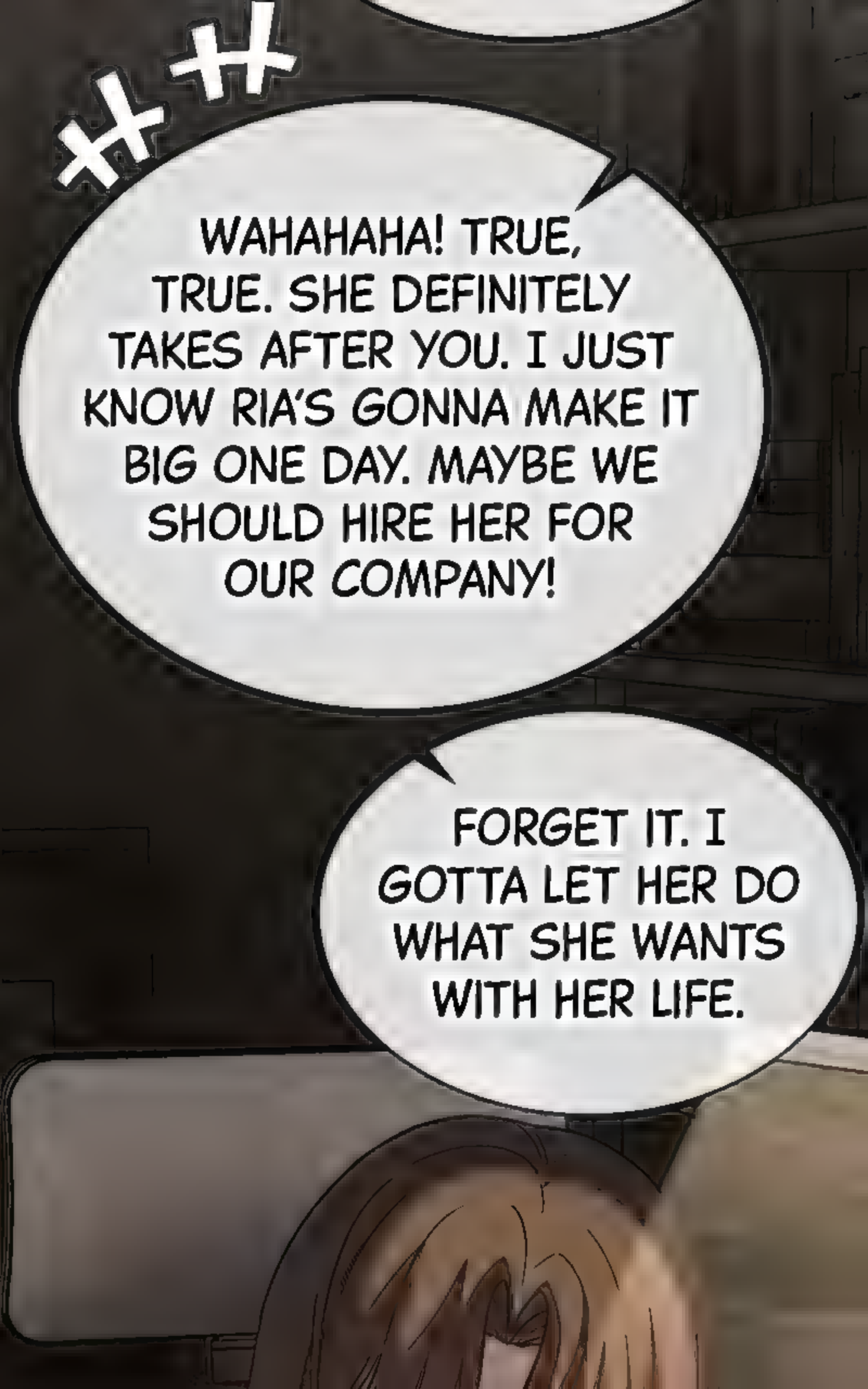
THESE ARE THE TIMES YOU GOTTA ENJOY, DUDE. SO WHAT DOES RIA WANNA BE WHEN SHE GROWS OLDER, HUH?

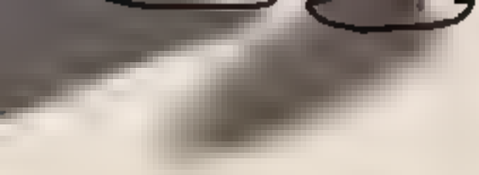
ACTUALLY... RIA SAYS SHE WANTS TO BE A DEVELOPER, JUST LIKE ME.



WHAT?
HMM... I DON'T
KNOW ABOUT
THAT...

I JUST TOLD HER TO GO FOR IT. YOU KNOW SHE TAKES AFTER ME. WHEN SHE'S GOT HER EYES SET ON SOMETHING, SHE HAS TO GO FOR IT.
I SAID I'D BUY HER COLOR CONTACTS ONLY IF SHE GOT THE TOP TEST SCORES OF HER CLASS, AND LOOK AT HER NOW.


WAHAHAHA! TRUE, TRUE. SHE DEFINITELY TAKES AFTER YOU. I JUST KNOW RIA'S GONNA MAKE IT BIG ONE DAY. MAYBE WE SHOULD HIRE HER FOR OUR COMPANY!
FORGET IT. I GOTTA LET HER DO WHAT SHE WANTS WITH HER LIFE.



15 YEARS AGO

AGO

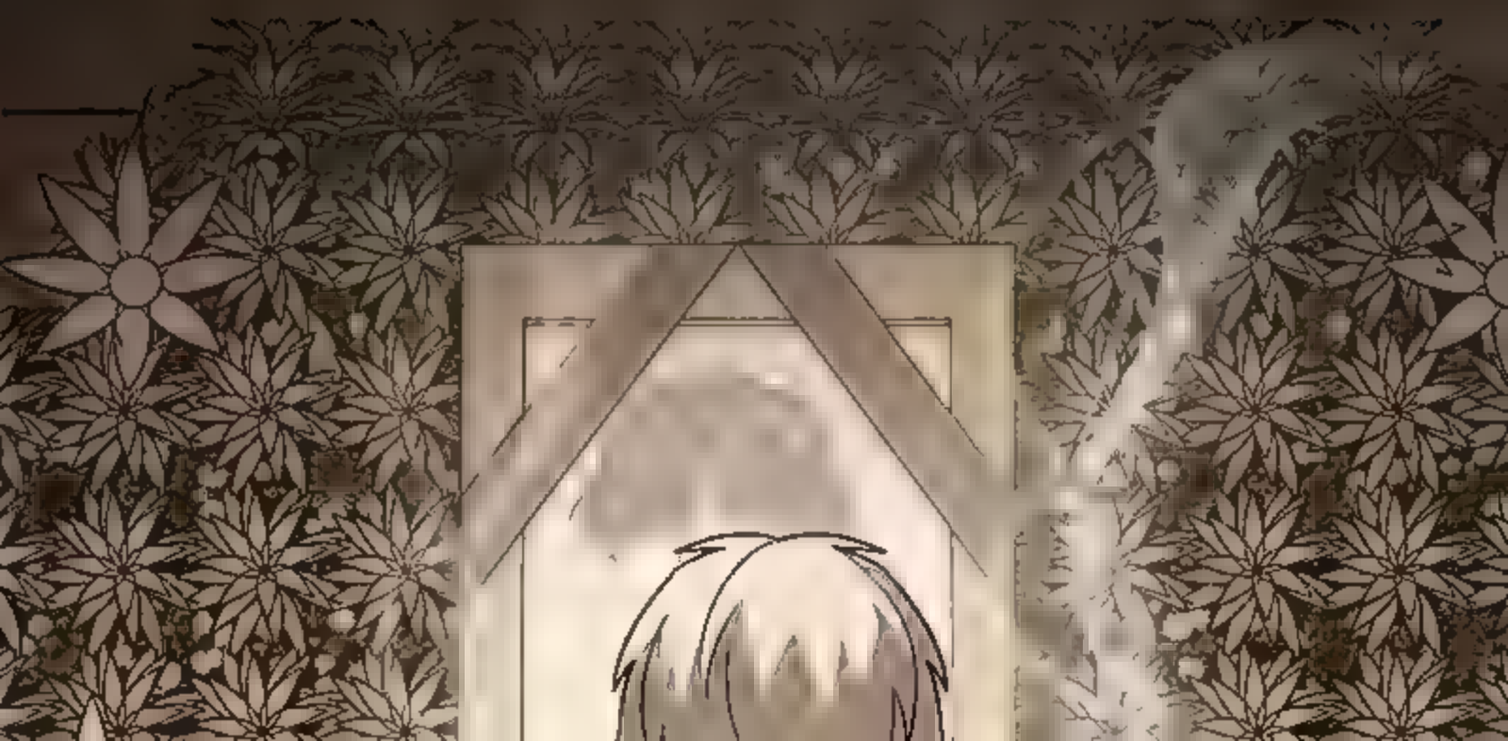
PANCREATIC
CANCER?

POOR THING... AND I FEEL TERRIBLE FOR HIS CLOSE FRIENDS AND FAMILY...

I HEARD EVEN MR. CHOI LOST

HIS SON RECENTLY AND ONLY HAS HIS GRANDDAUGHTER LEFT.

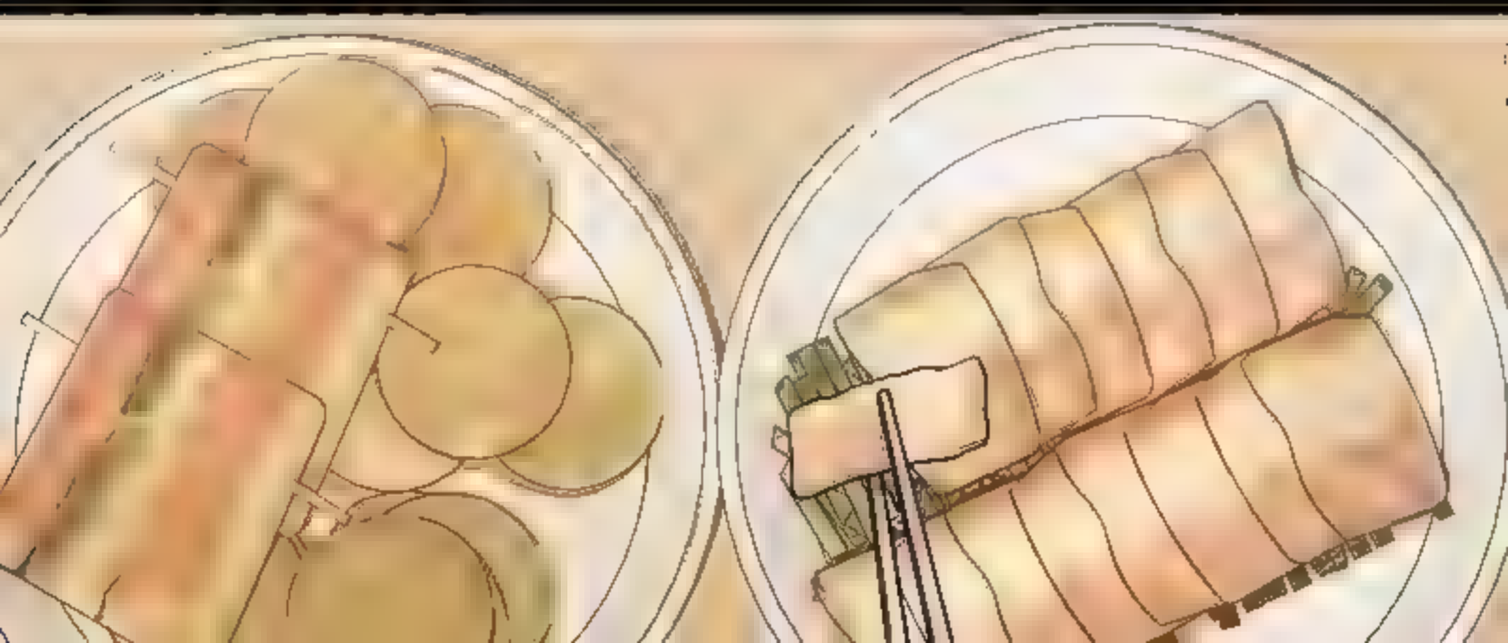
NOW HE'S EVEN LOST HIS BEST FRIEND...



...THIS ISN'T FAIR, MAN.

YOU TOLD ME TO STAY STRONG WHEN MY SON PASSED AWAY.

BUT NOW YOU'RE JUST LEAVING ME LIKE THIS...?



MUNCH
MUNCH
...DON'T

EAT SO FAST,
RIA.

AND DON'T
YOU WORRY,
RIA.

...HUH?

I'LL PAY FOR YOUR EXPENSES FOR STUDYING ABROAD.

IF YOU WANT TO WORK FOR ME AFTER YOU GRADUATE, YOU JUST LET ME KNOW, OKAY?

I PROMISE...

GRAB

...THAT I'LL BE THE ONE...
TO FULFILL YOUR DAD'S DREAMS FOR

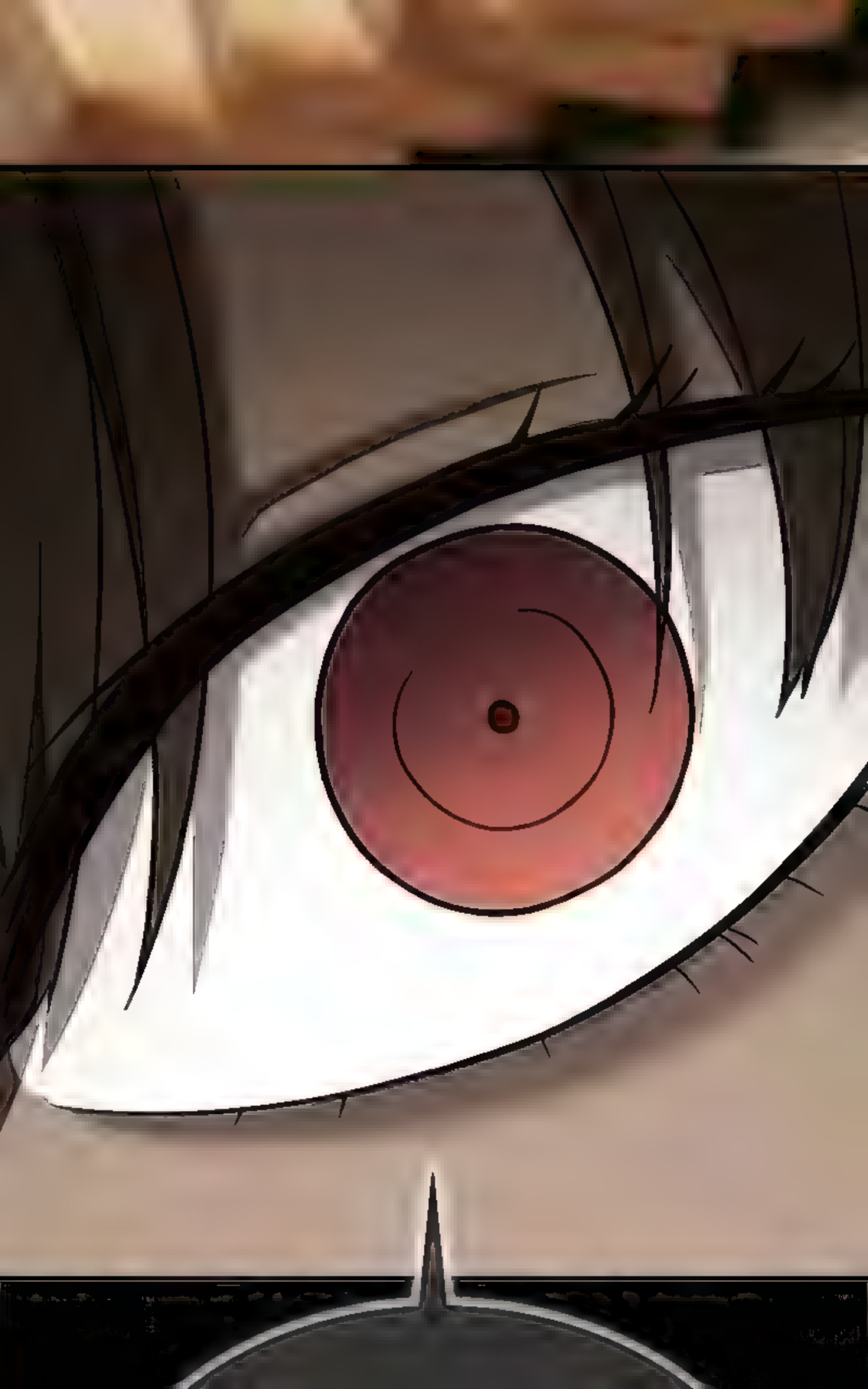
HIM!

UNCLE...

YES,
RIA?!

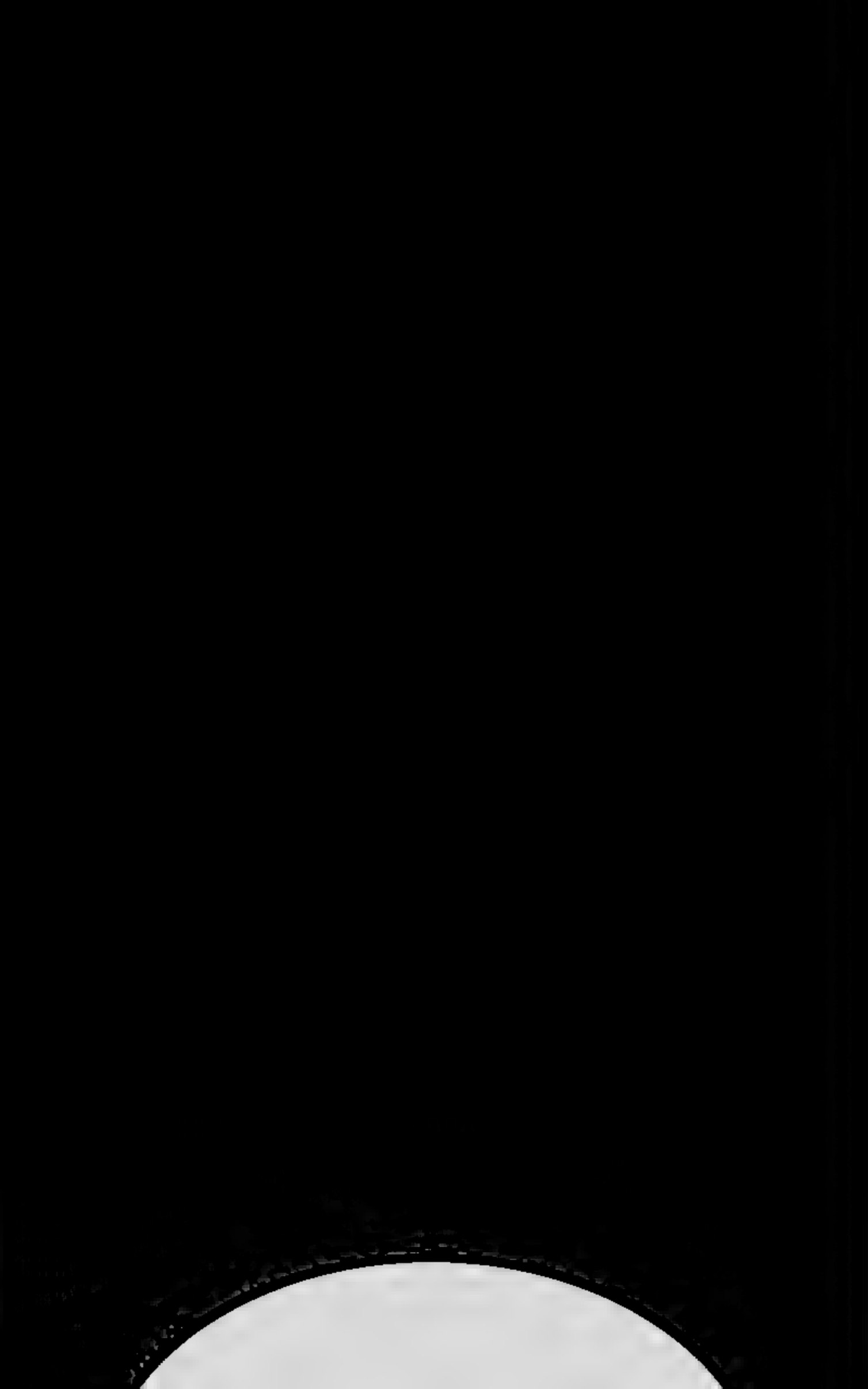
WHY DO
YOU WANT TO
BE THE ONE...

...TO FULFILL MY DAD'S DREAMS?



WELL?

...HUH?



5 YEARS AGO

CHATTER
Chrono Life
Chrono Life
CHATTER
SPACE

FREEDOM,
EXCITEMENT,
EXPLORATION!

THAT'S OUR SLOGAN! WE HOPE YOU'LL ALL REMEMBER IT!

AND
THIS HAS BEEN
THE BEST VIRTUAL
REALITY GAME OF
ALL TIME...

...CHRONO
LIFE.

FLASH
MS. YU!
OVER HERE!
LOOK OVER

FLASH
HERE!
FLASH
MS. YU!
FLASH

WAS THIS
SUPPOSED TO BE
A SHOWCASE FOR THE

GAME OR SOME RED CARPET EVENT?

EVERYONE

ONLINE ISN'T EVEN TALKING ABOUT THE GAME. THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT YOU, RIA!

ISN'T THAT A GOOD THING? COMPANIES SHELL OUT BUTTLOADS OF CASH FOR CELEBRITIES TO ADVERTISE THEIR

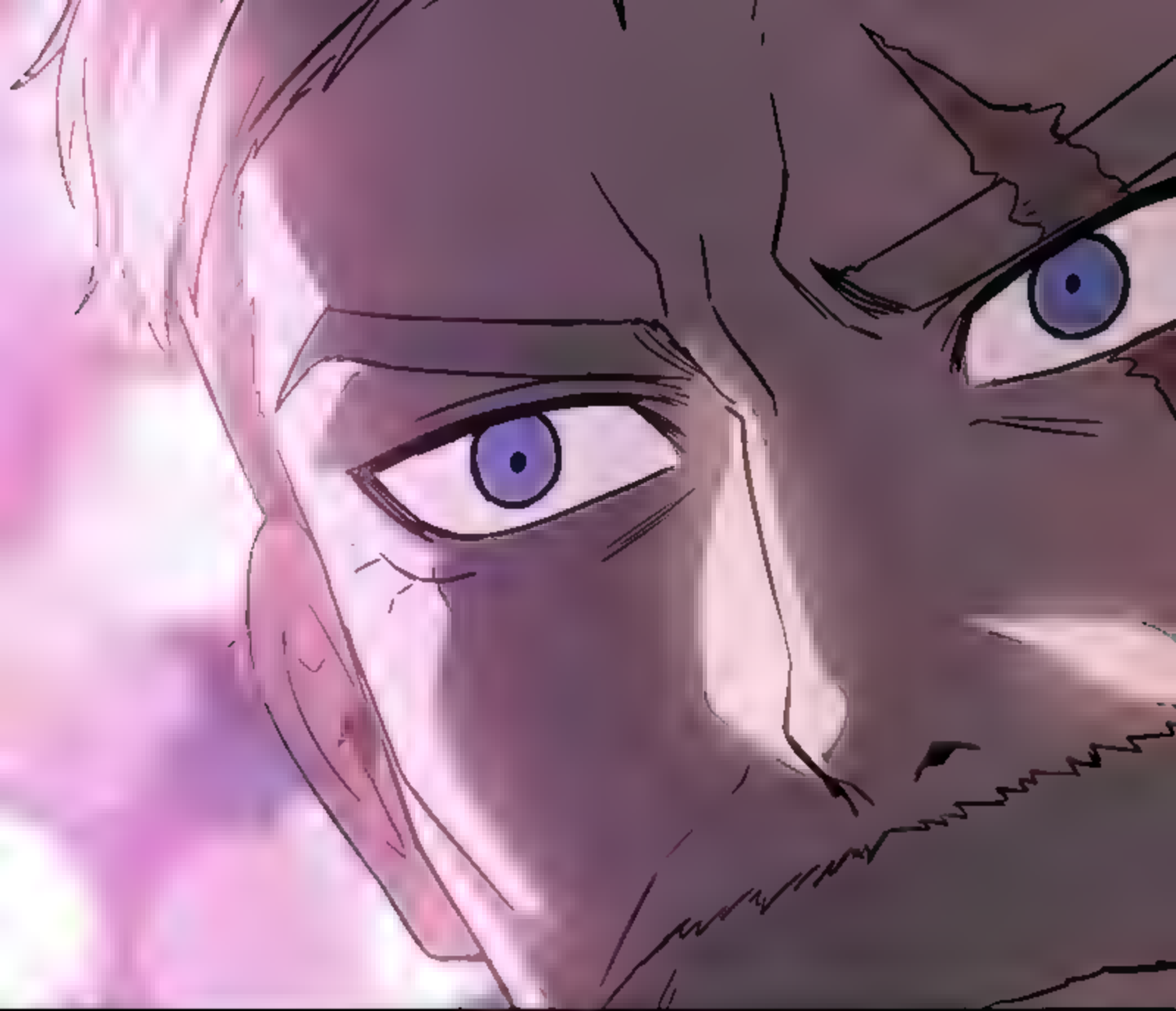
PRODUCTS.
YOU GOT A GORGEOUS GIRL LIKE ME TO ADVERTISE FOR FREE.

HEY, HEY.
DON'T FORGET I'M
YOUR UNCLE.

YOU'VE CHANGED SO MUCH, RIA. WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT SHY, LITTLE GIRL I USED TO KNOW?

YOU'VE CHANGED A LOT TOO, UNCLE. YOU STOPPED BEING SUCH A LOUDMOUTH IN PUBLIC.

RIA...



ARE YOU ADJUSTING WELL TO THE COMPANY?

I JUST
WANT YOU TO FEEL
COMFORTABLE
AT WORK.

OF COURSE

...OF COURSE.

IT'S BEEN SO

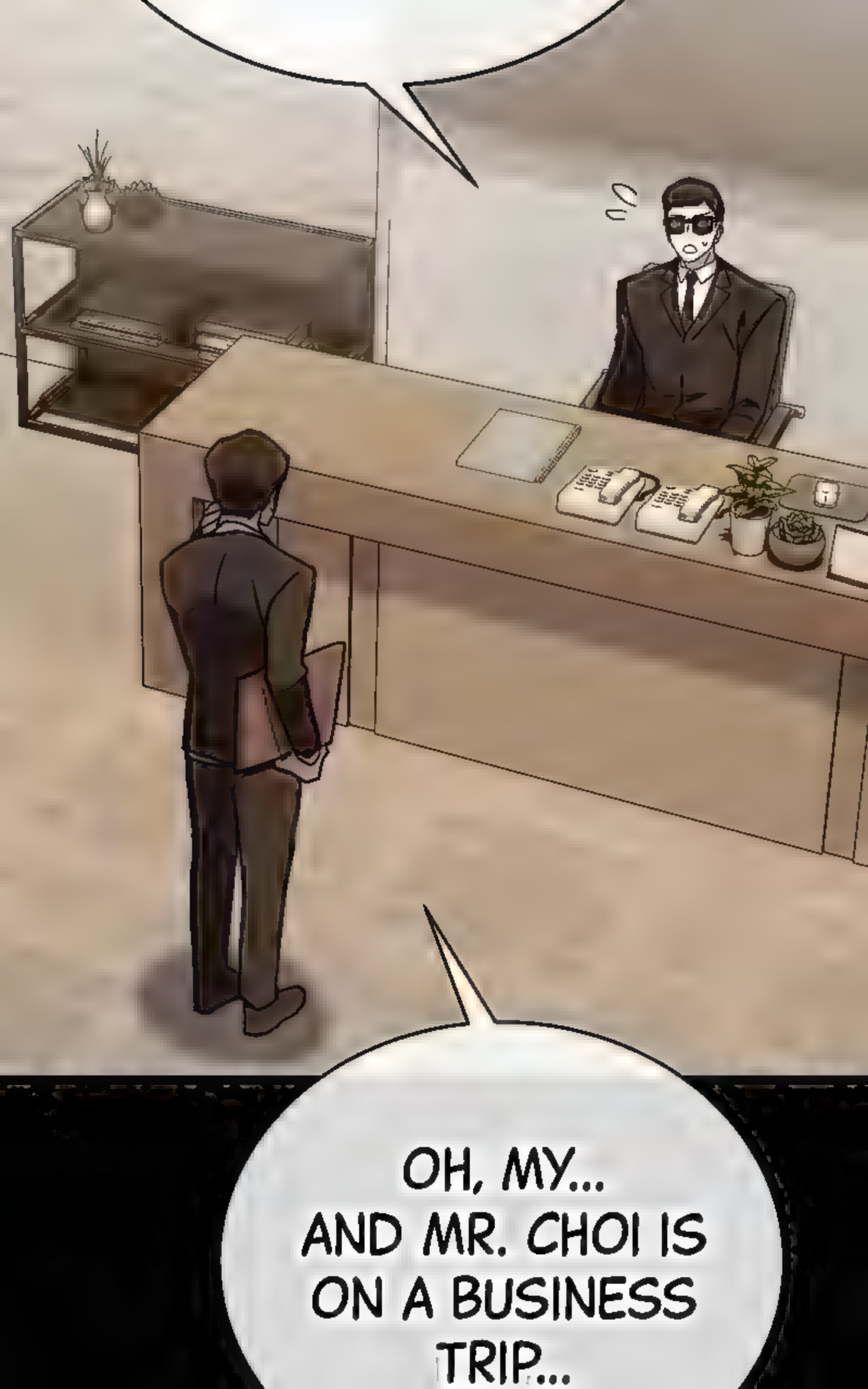
COMFORTABLE THIS
WHOLE TIME.

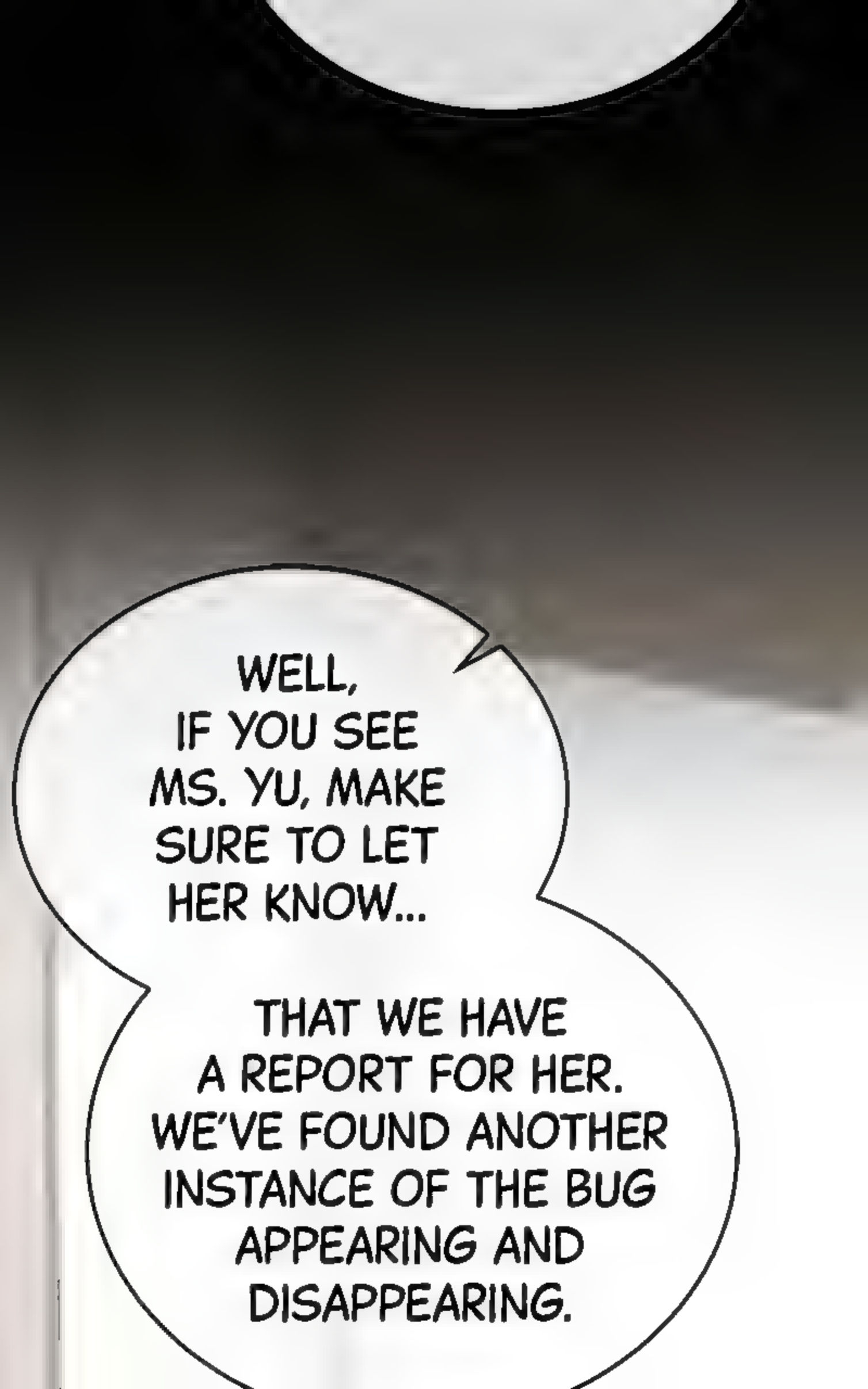
IT ALMOST
FEELS LIKE THIS
ENTIRE COMPANY
IS MINE.

10 MONTHS
AGO

IS DIRECTOR YU IN HER OFFICE?

SORRY, NO...
SHE'S CURRENTLY LOGGED INTO ANOTHER WORLD, BUT WE'RE NOT EXACTLY SURE WHERE...


OH, MY...
AND MR. CHOI IS
ON A BUSINESS
TRIP...


WELL,
IF YOU SEE
MS. YU, MAKE
SURE TO LET
HER KNOW...
THAT WE HAVE
A REPORT FOR HER.
WE'VE FOUND ANOTHER
INSTANCE OF THE BUG
APPEARING AND
DISAPPEARING.

AGAIN?
ALRIGHT,
THEN.

CEO Deokbae Choi

FLASH

GRAH!
GRAAAH!

AH, HELL NO! THAT BEAR AGAIN?!

NOOO
OOOO!!
MUNCH
MUNCH

CRACK

I GUESS
I'LL HAVE TO GIVE
UP ON NUMBER
204 SOON...

AFTER
THE SECRET
EXPERIMENTS ARE
OVER...

...THEY ALL INSIST THAT THEY CAN LAST WHEN THEY GET THEIR COMPENSATION MONEY.

BUT IF I DON'T MENTION ANYTHING, THEY GIVE UP RIGHT AWAY.

SNICKER

SNICKER
NO!
GO AWAY!

IT TOOK ME SO LONG TO MAKE THIS JEWEL!
LET ME GO JUST THIS ONCE! COME ON!
SNICKER
SNICKER

SNICKER

SNICKER
...I GUESS WE COULD LET HIM G--
DESTROY HIM!!

HE MUST DIE!!!
S-SURE.

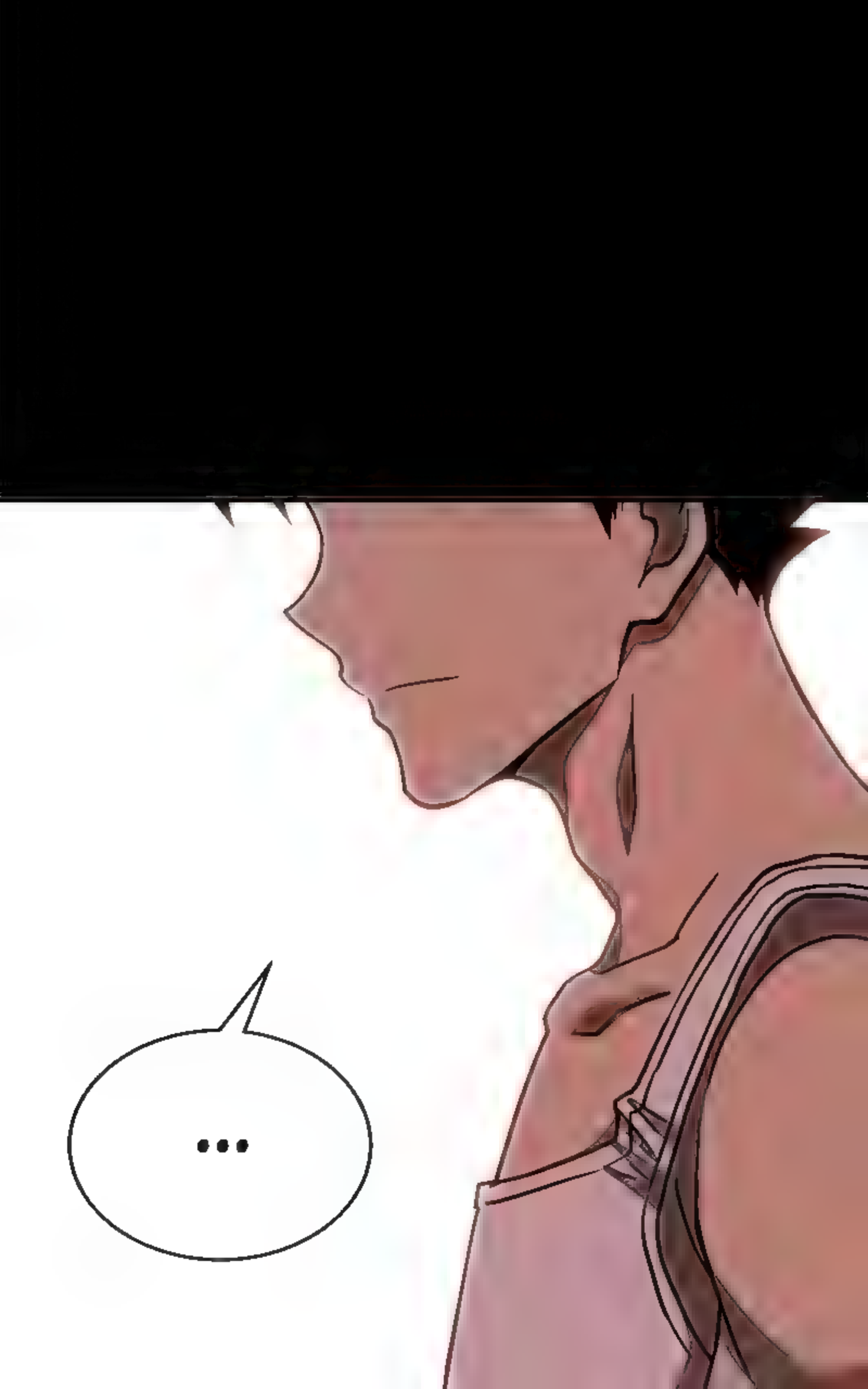
GRANTURIS'S
ELITE COMMANDERS
〈ONE OF THE SEVEN
WARLORDS〉

DORO OF
DEVOTION

CRACK

YOUR
CHARACTER
HAS DIED.

DING
YOU HAVE LOST A PORTION OF YOUR EXP. YOU WILL BE REVIVED IN A SAFE AREA.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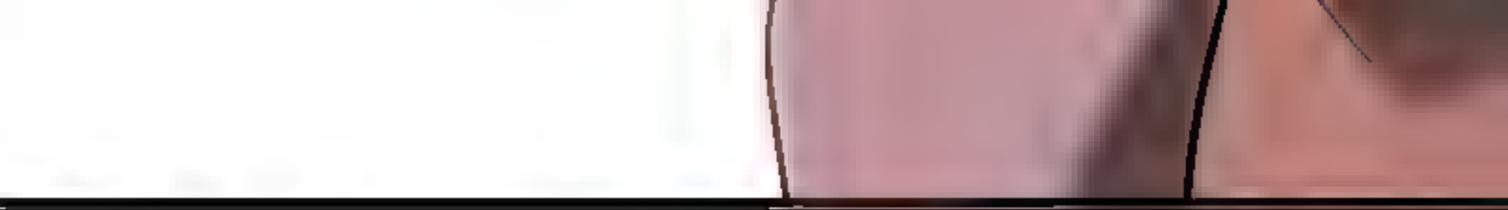
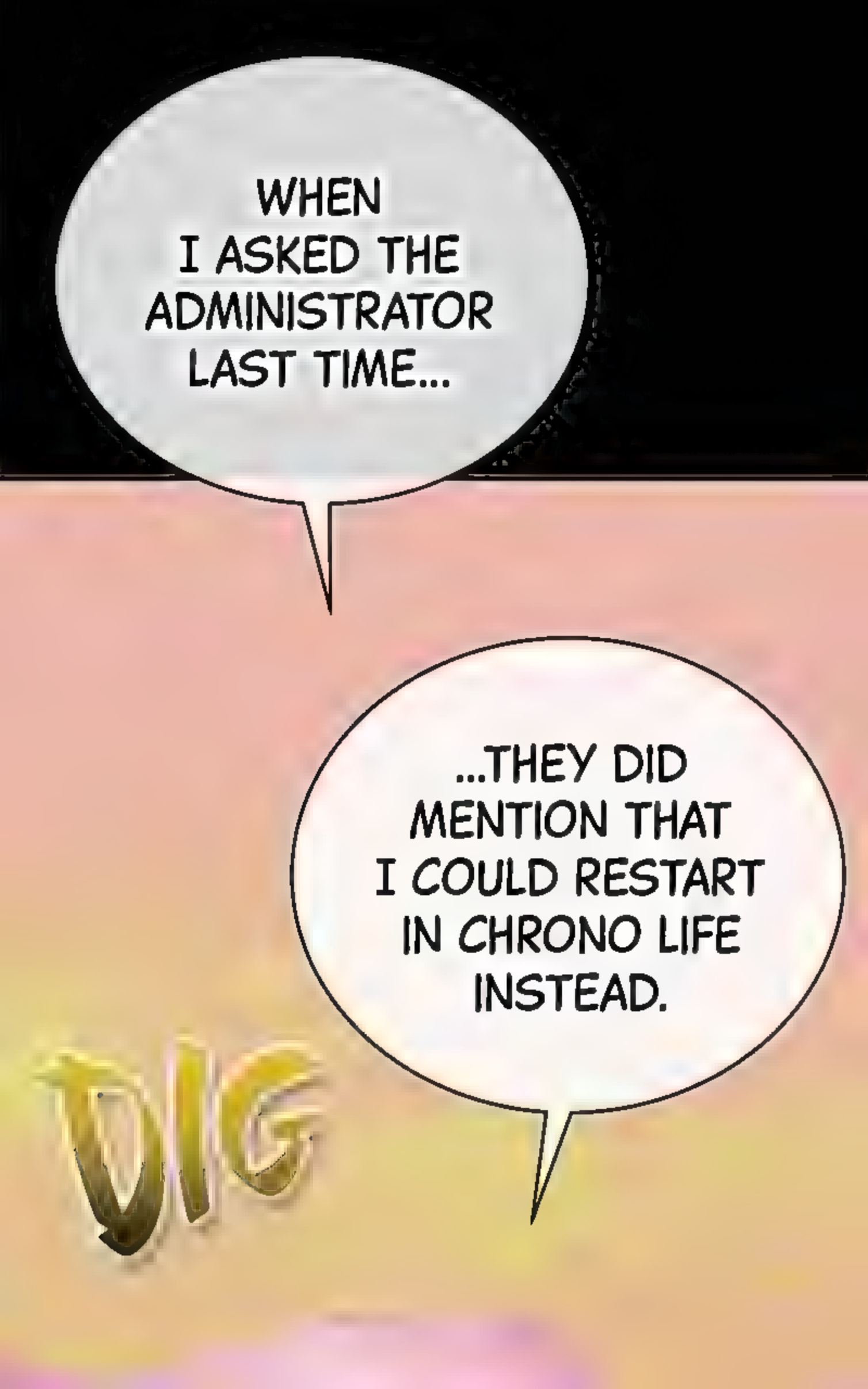
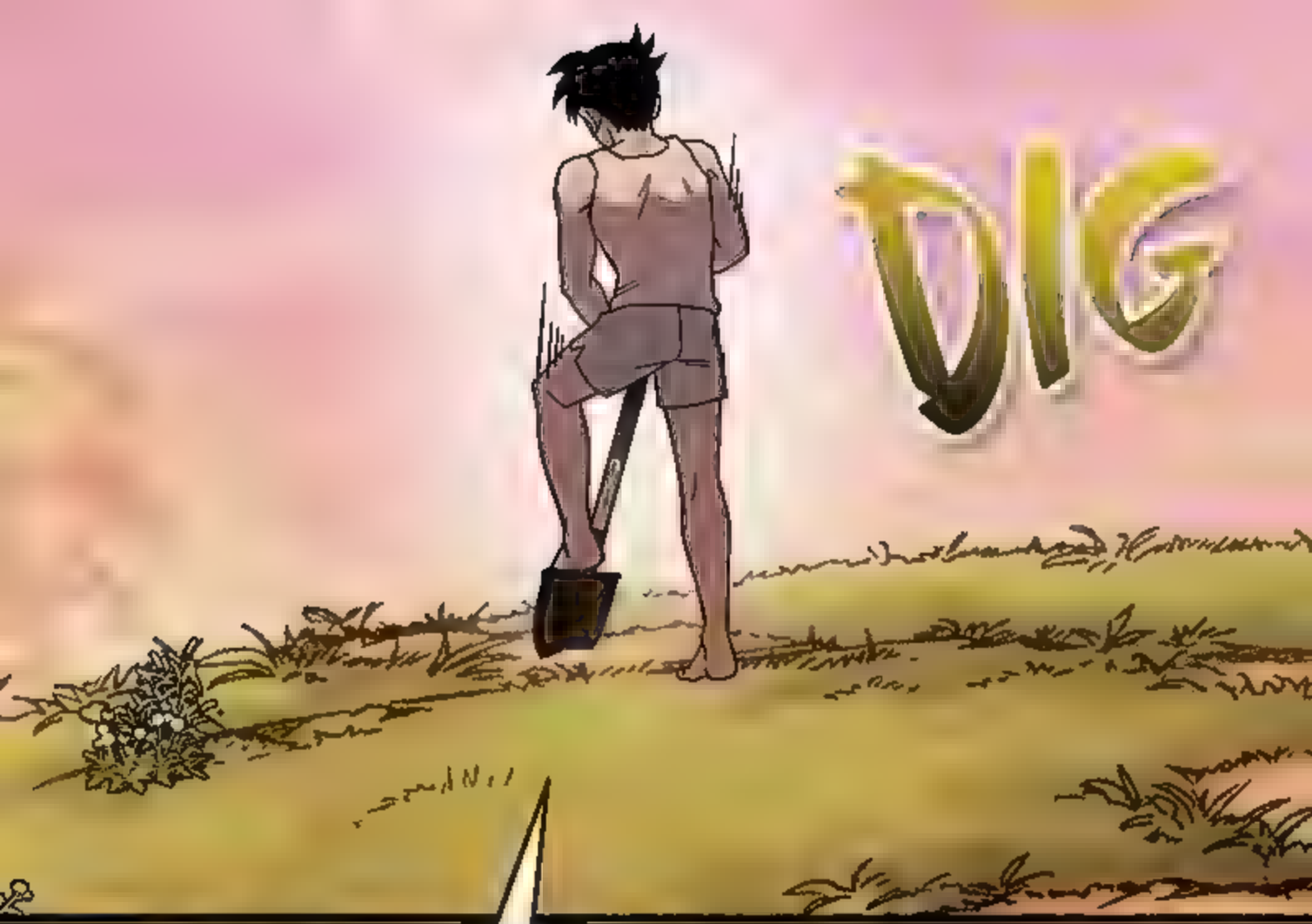


THUNK

...I'LL
JUST DO IT
AGAIN!


WHEN I ASKED THE ADMINISTRATOR LAST TIME...
...THEY DID MENTION THAT I COULD RESTART IN CHRONO LIFE INSTEAD.
DIG

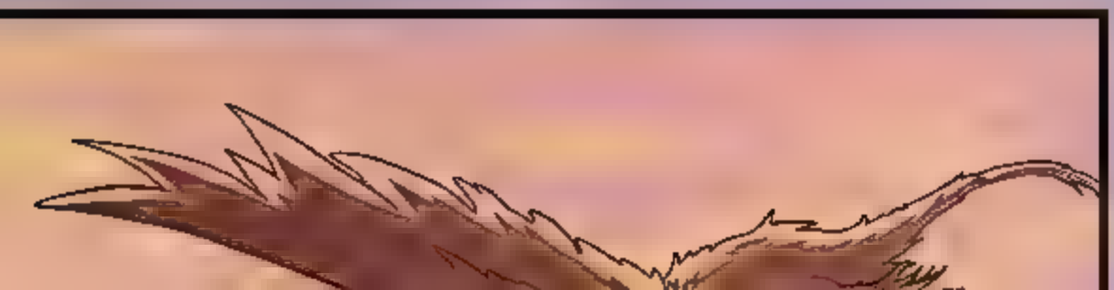


BUT HONESTLY, I THINK I LIKE THIS PLACE.

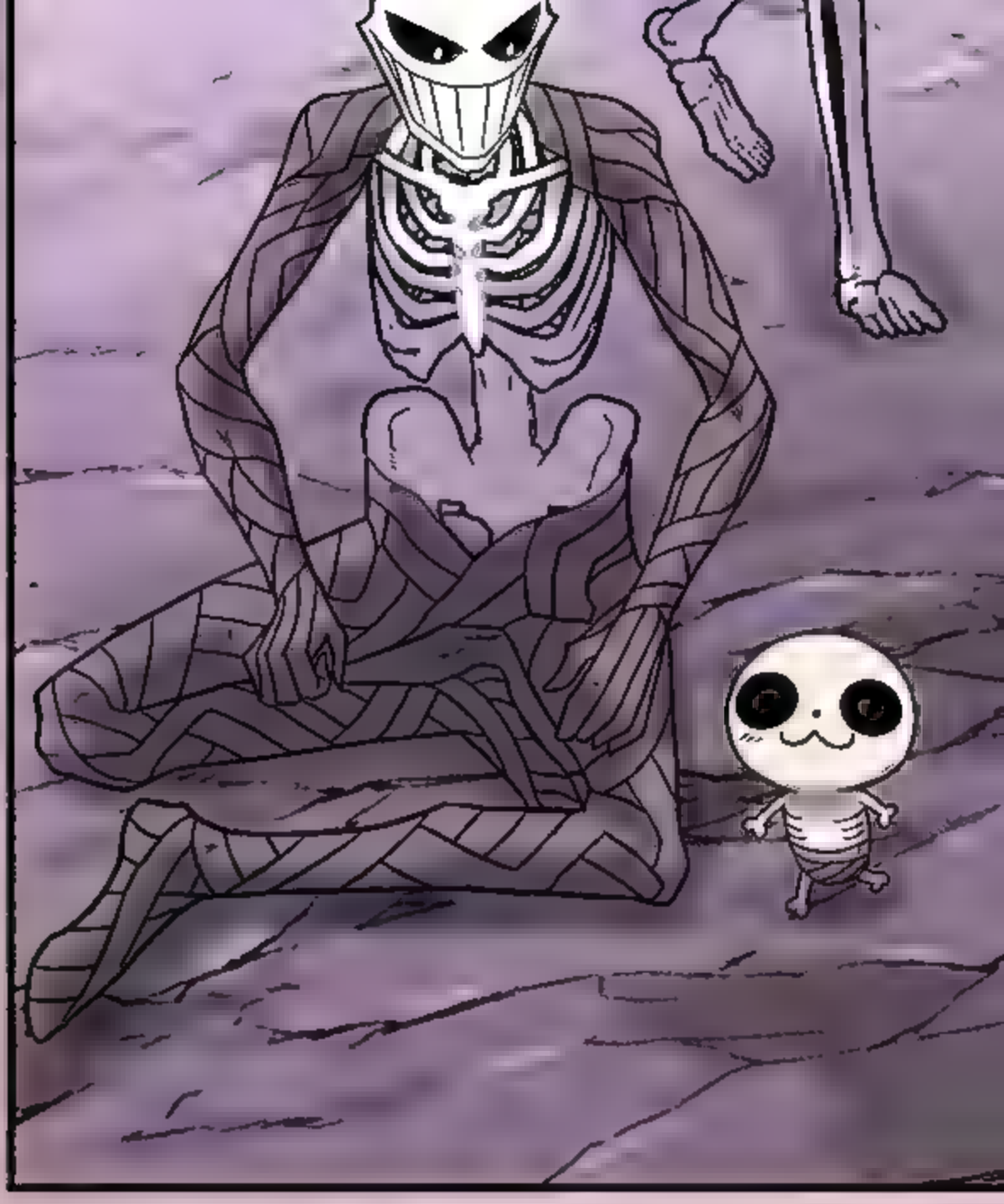
BUT
MORE THAN
THAT...

...I'M TIRED
OF CONSTANTLY
RUNNING AWAY!

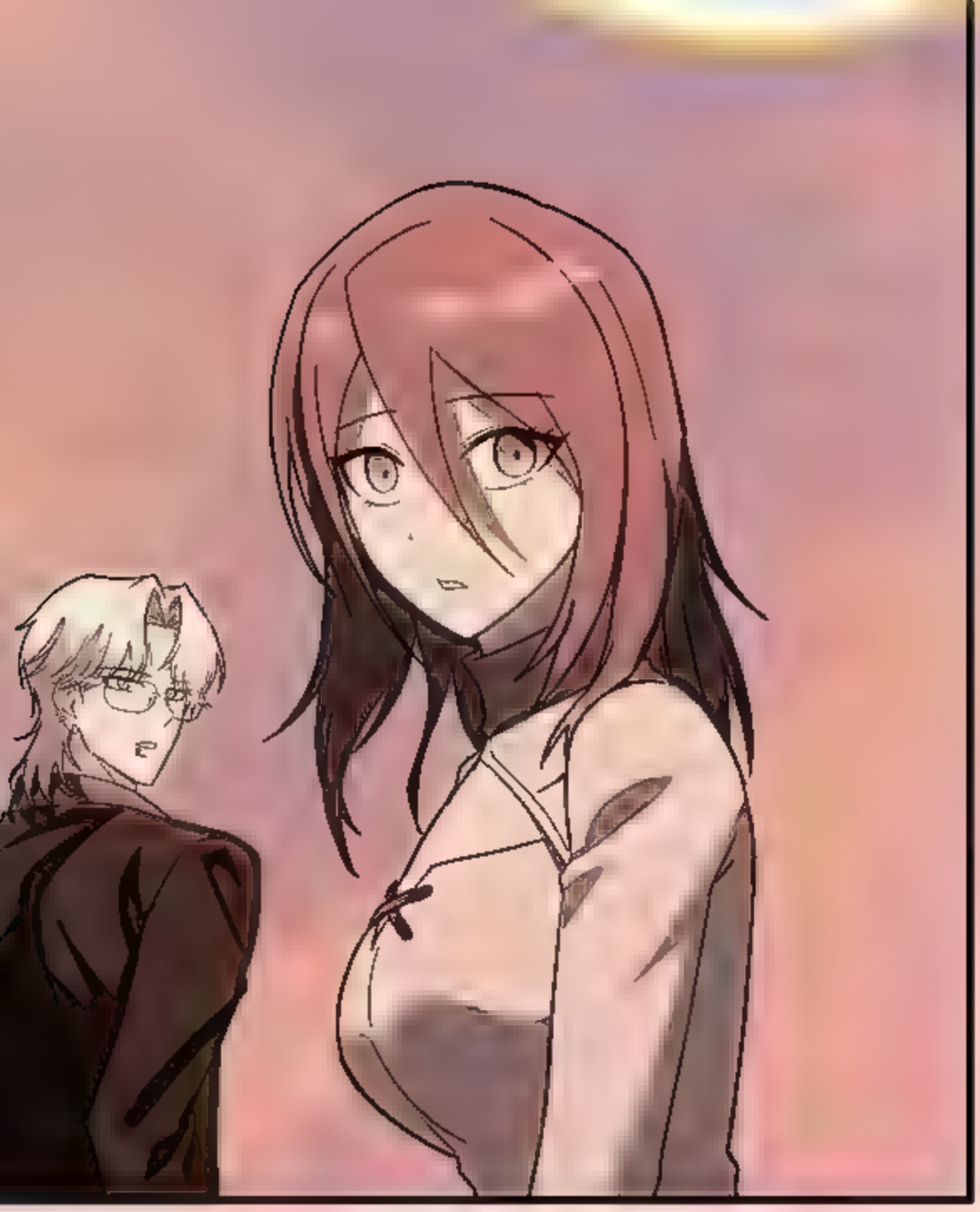
IF I
JUST WORK
HARD...



...ONE DAY,
I'LL MAKE
ALLIES...



...AND
EVEN SOME
FRIENDS!



WANNA LIVE LIKE
THE REST, YOU GOTTA
WORK FROM THE
SHOULDER.

MOTH

THIS IS MY LIFE NOW. HOW COULD I EVER GIVE IT UP?

AHH!
LET'S KEEP
GOING!

DIG
DIG

GRIN

I FOUND

ONE!

A PARTNER!

STAB

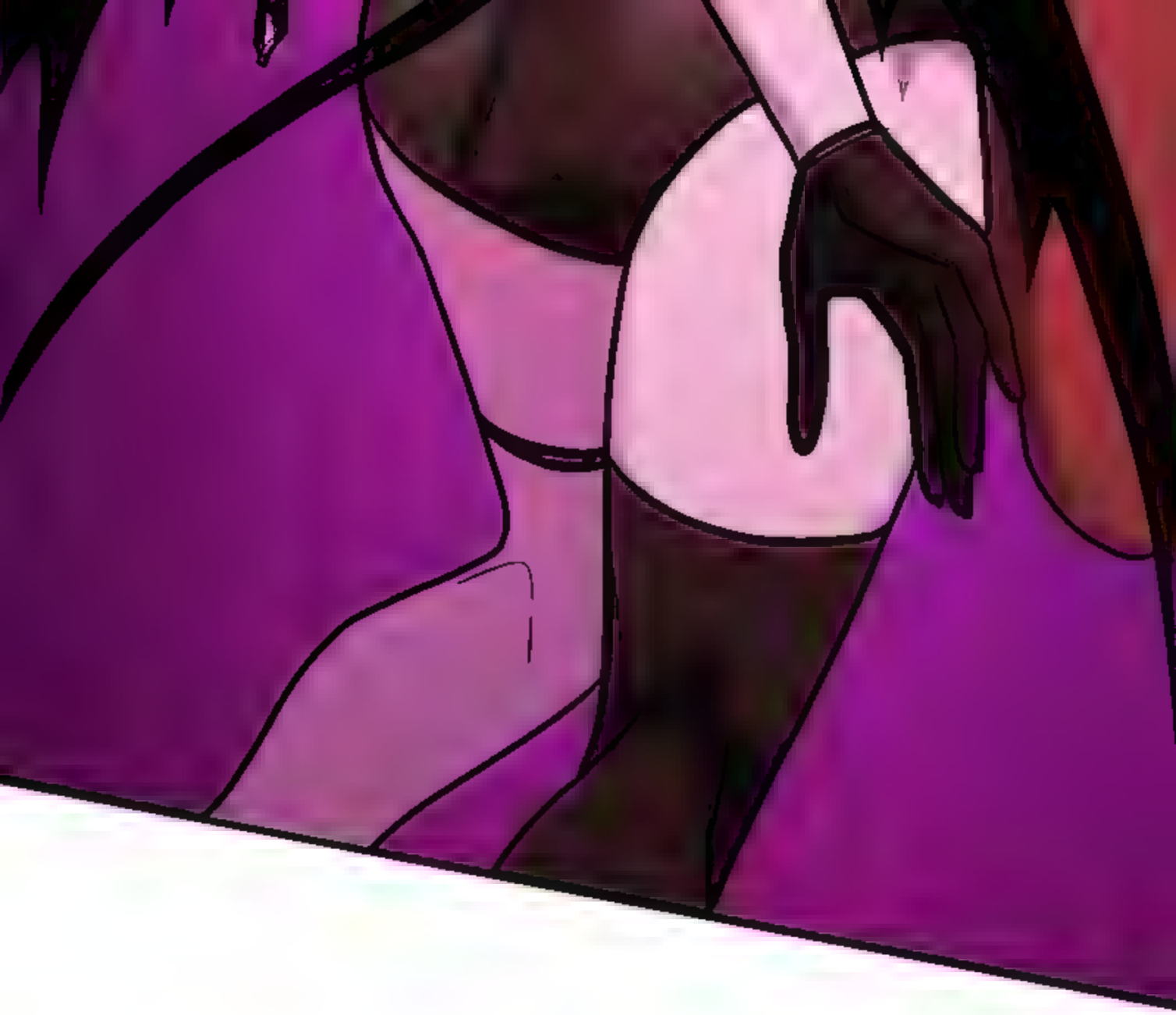
RETCH

KUAGH...!

JI...
SEOK...

RUN...

AWAY...



HYAAAAA!!!

BOOM

WHOOSH

MMPH...

MMM...
MMPH!!!
SMACK

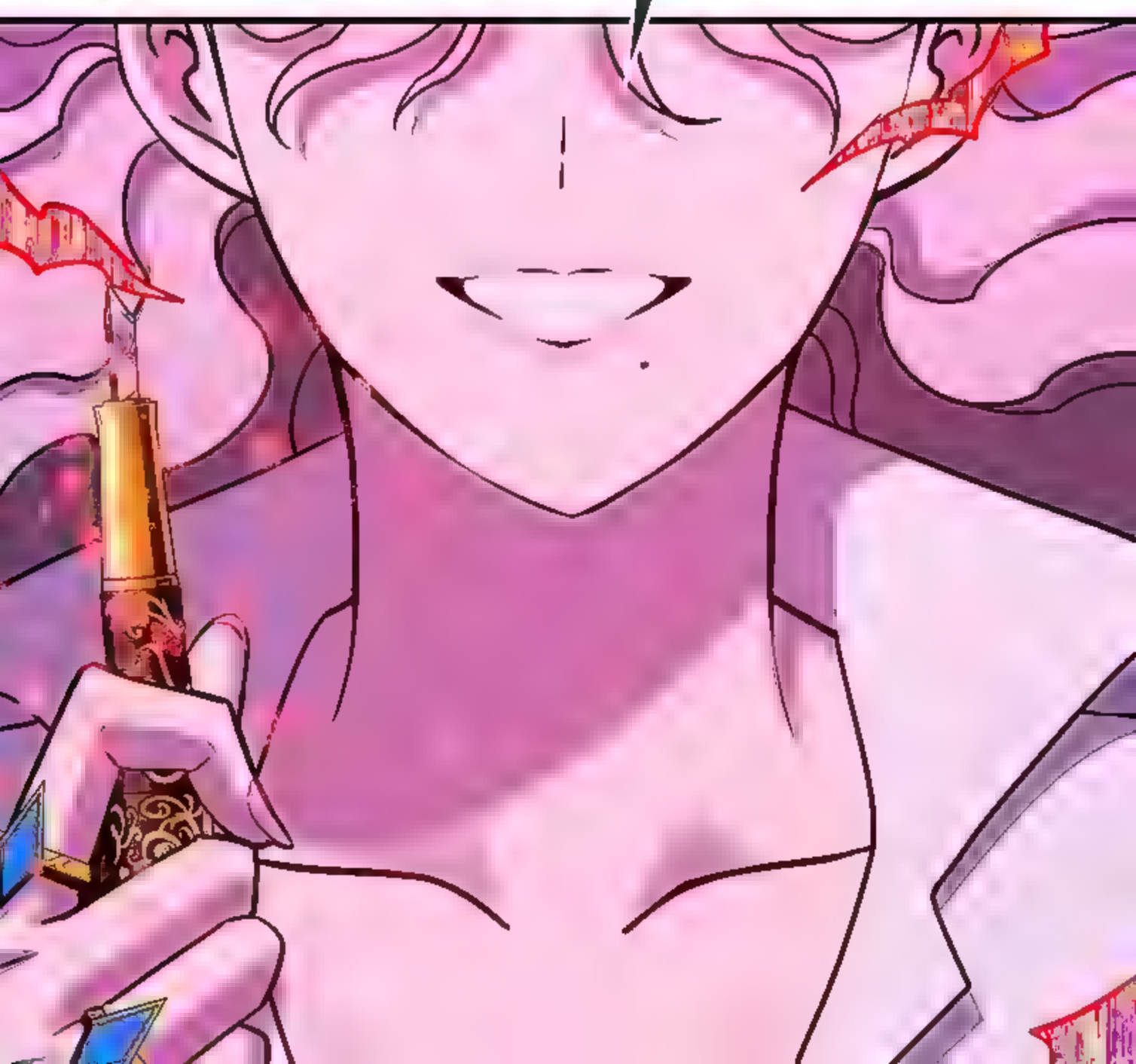
SMACK
WHAT

A WUSS.

BUT
THEN AGAIN,
I'M SURE IT

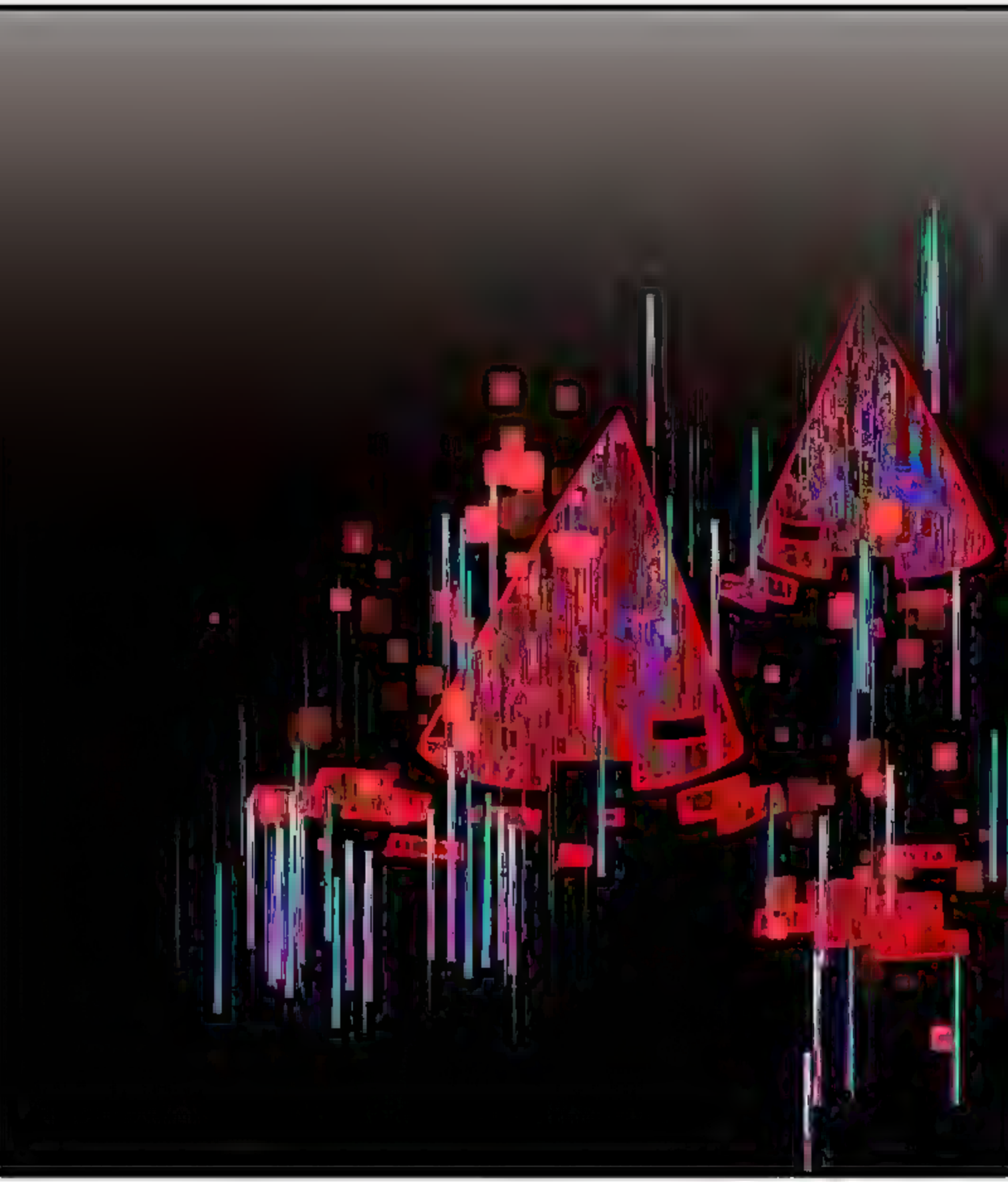
DID HURT.

I SET THE PAIN LEVELS OF MY ATTACKS TO MATCH THAT OF BEING HARMED IN REAL LIFE.

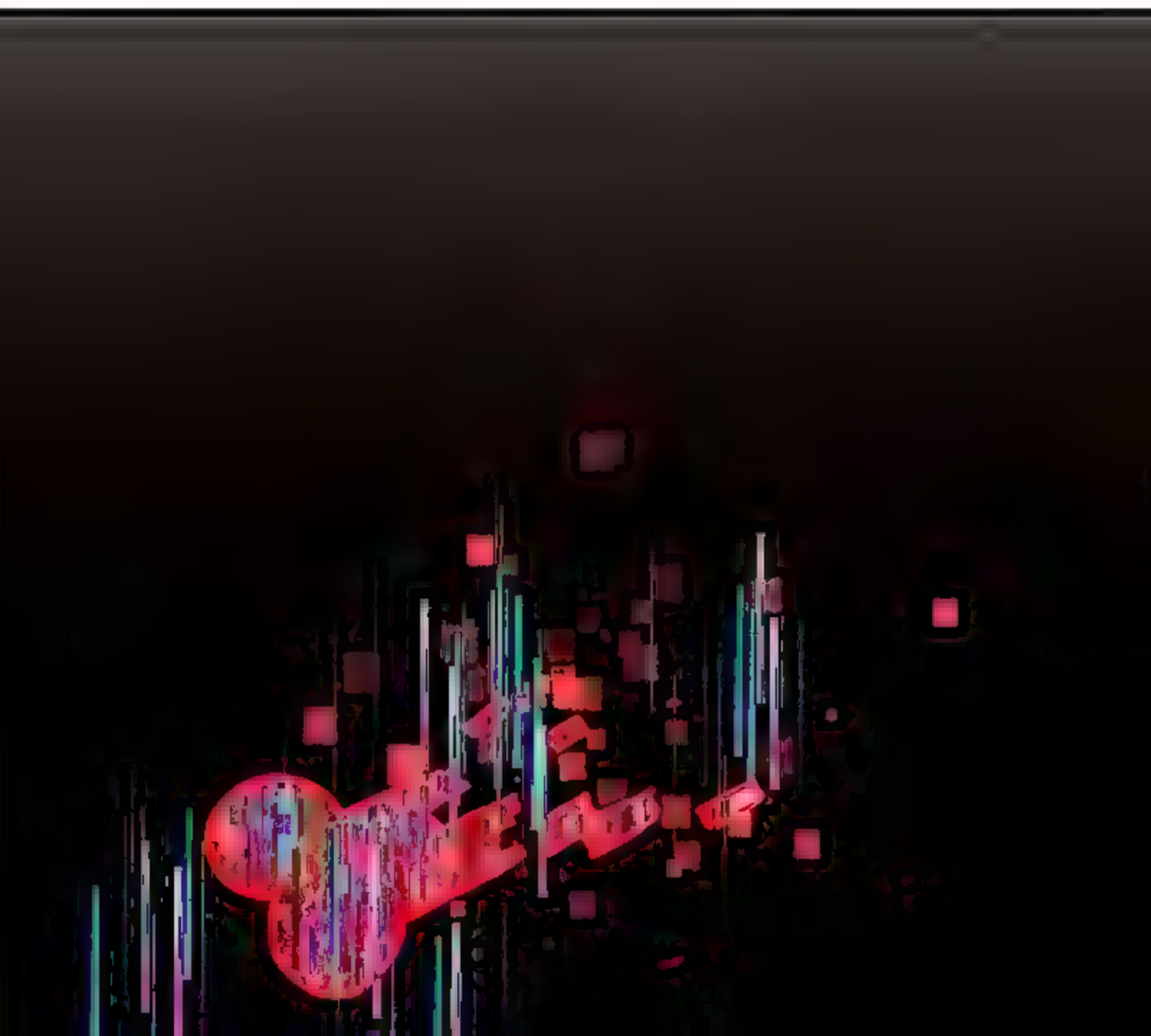


IT'S FINE.
YOU CAN JUST
LOG OUT AND
COMFORT HER IN THE
REAL WORLD.

WHO I REALLY FEEL BAD FOR... ARE THOSE LITTLE ONES.

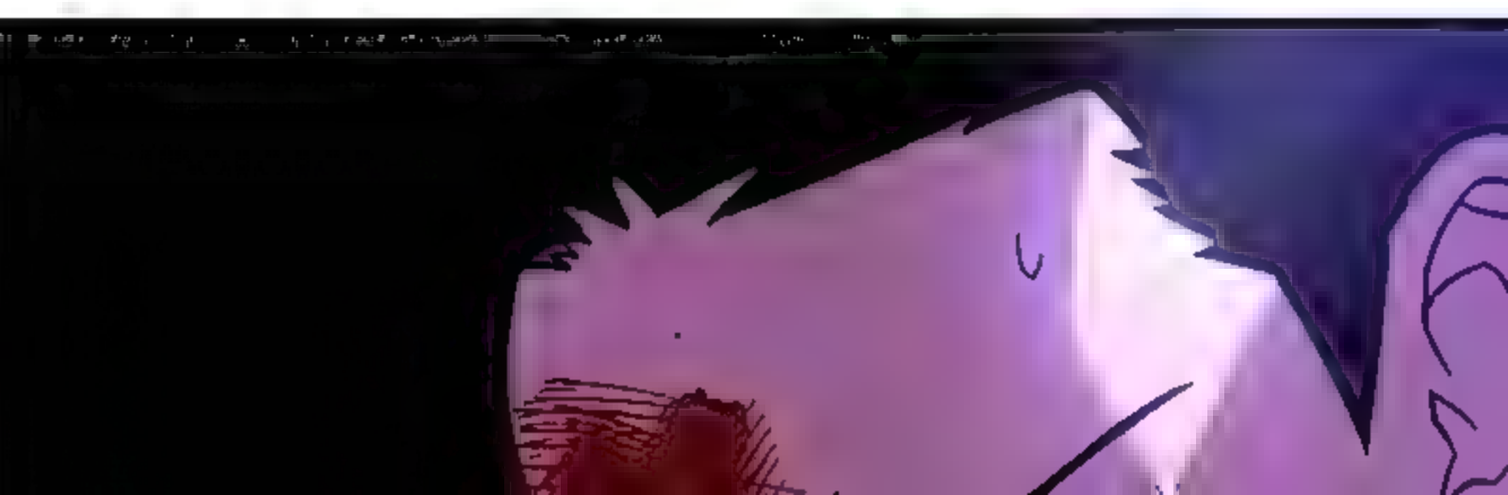


THEY'VE BEEN DESTROYED BY THE BUG.



SO THERE'S
NO WAY TO BRING
THEM BACK.

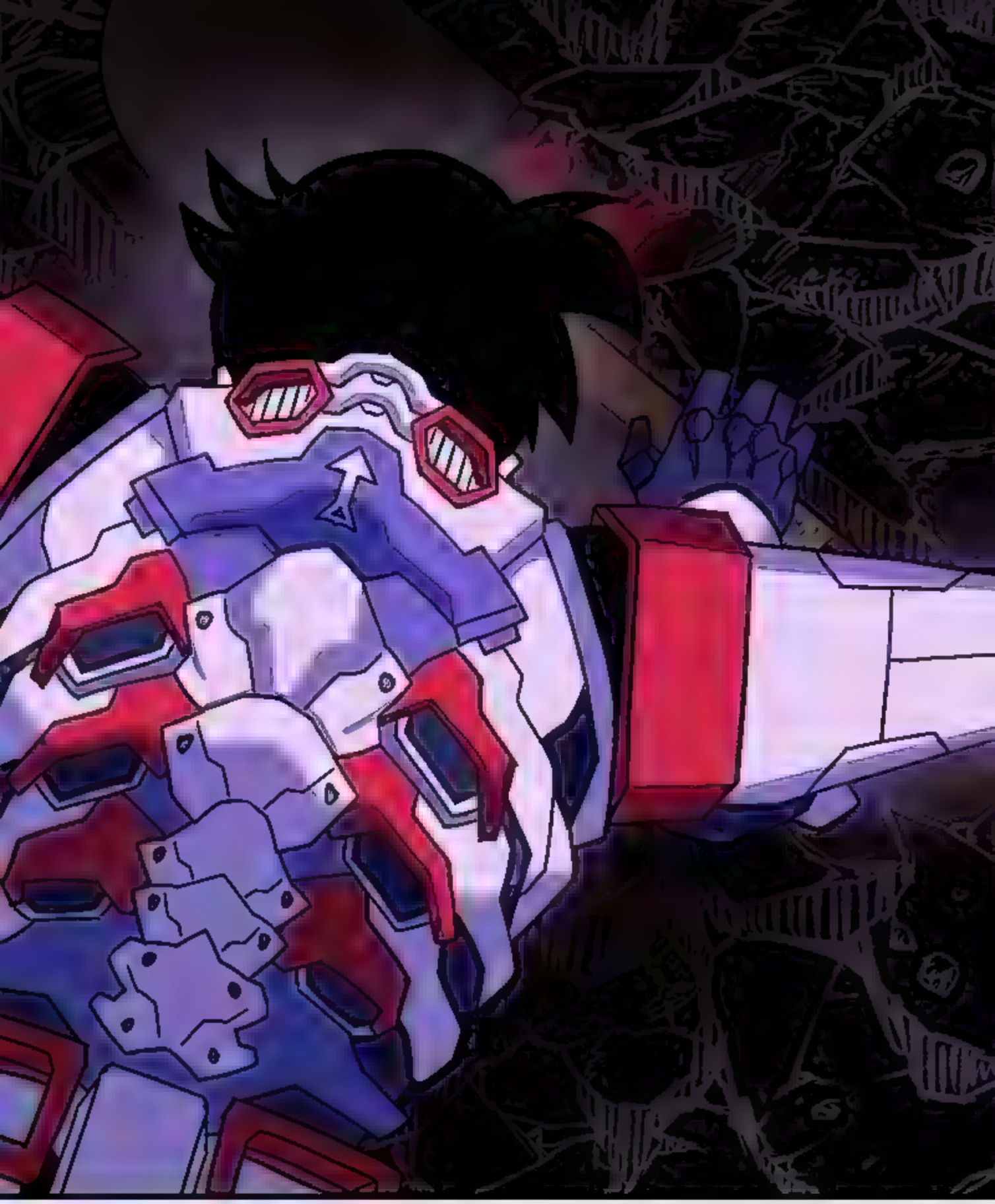
BUT DON'T
BE TOO SAD.



HIC...!

THERE'LL BE SIMILAR ONES LIKE THEM...
IN THE NEW GAME I'M MAKING.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS...? YOU CREATED THIS WORLD...



THAT'S RIGHT.

I DID CREATE THIS WORLD.

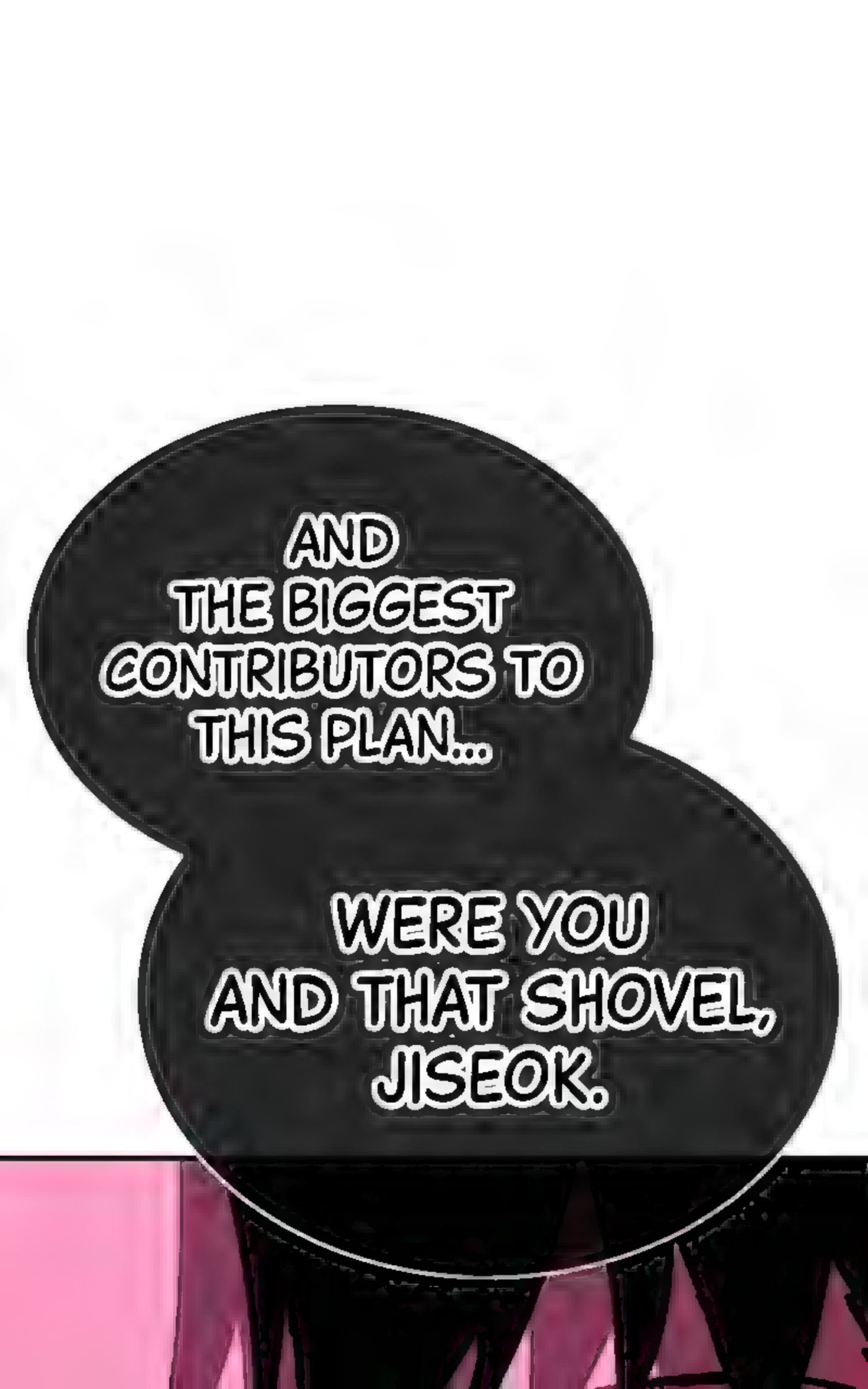
THE MONSTERS, THE BACKGROUNDS,

THE WEATHER, THE CIVILIZATIONS...
ALL OF IT WAS MADE WITH MY TENDER LOVE AND CARE.

THAT'S BECAUSE ANOTHER WORLD...

...WAS CREATED TO BE A NEST FOR THE BUGS...

...THAT WOULD DESTROY CHRONO LIFE!


AND
THE BIGGEST
CONTRIBUTORS TO
THIS PLAN...
WERE YOU
AND THAT SHOVEL,
JISEOK.

WH-WHAT...?

WITH THAT SHOVEL...

ONGRATS!

DARK'NVAST TOWER
GRAND OPENING

CONGRAT

...YOU MADE A HOUSE...

...A RAILWAY...

...AND EVEN
AN ISLAND IN
THE SEA.

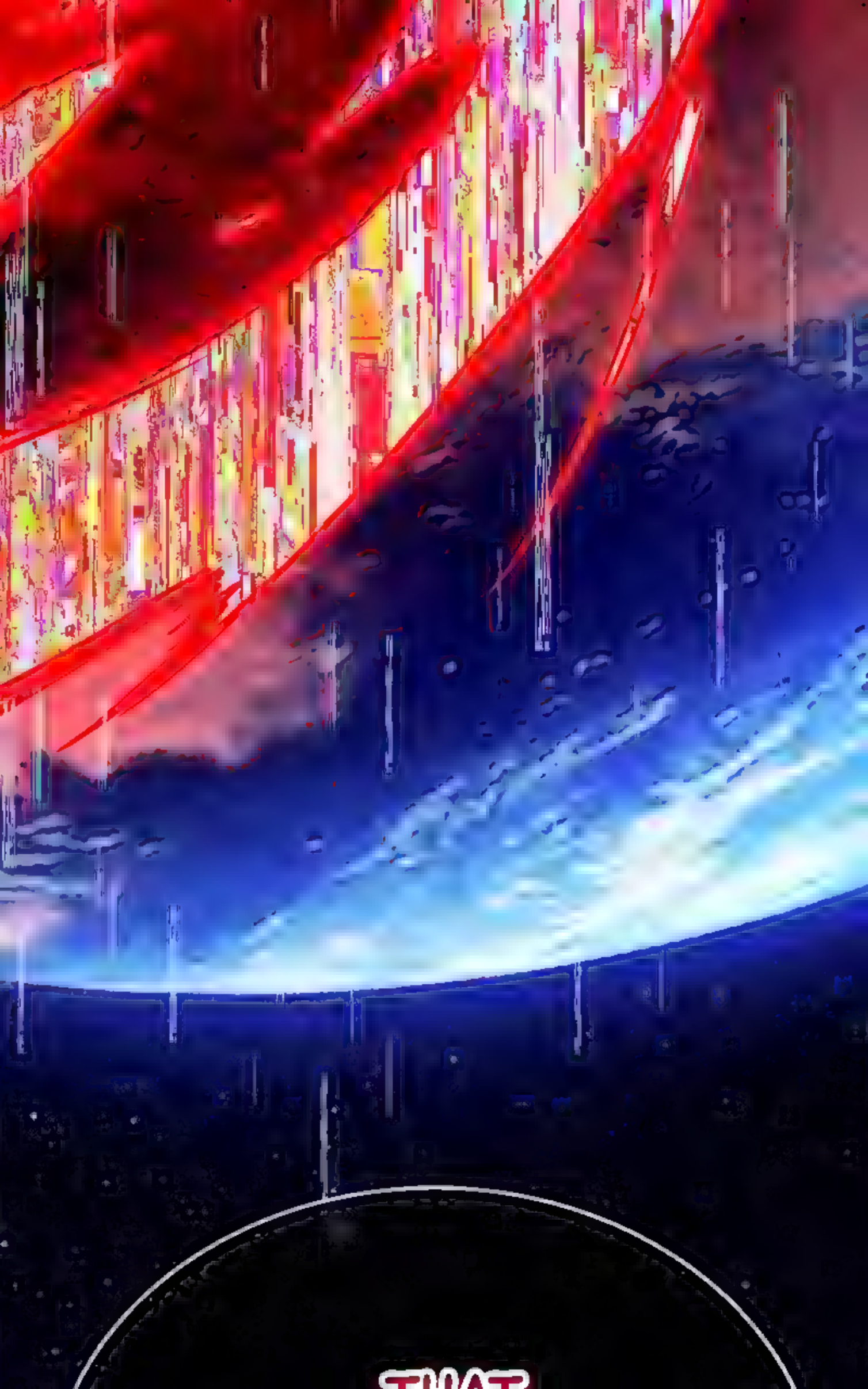
YOU'VE

CREATED MANY
A HOME.

AND
ALL OF THESE
ACTIONS...
...PLANTED
BUGS...

WORK
...WITHIN ANOTHER WORLD.

ALL YOU'VE DONE IS BECOME A NUISANCE...

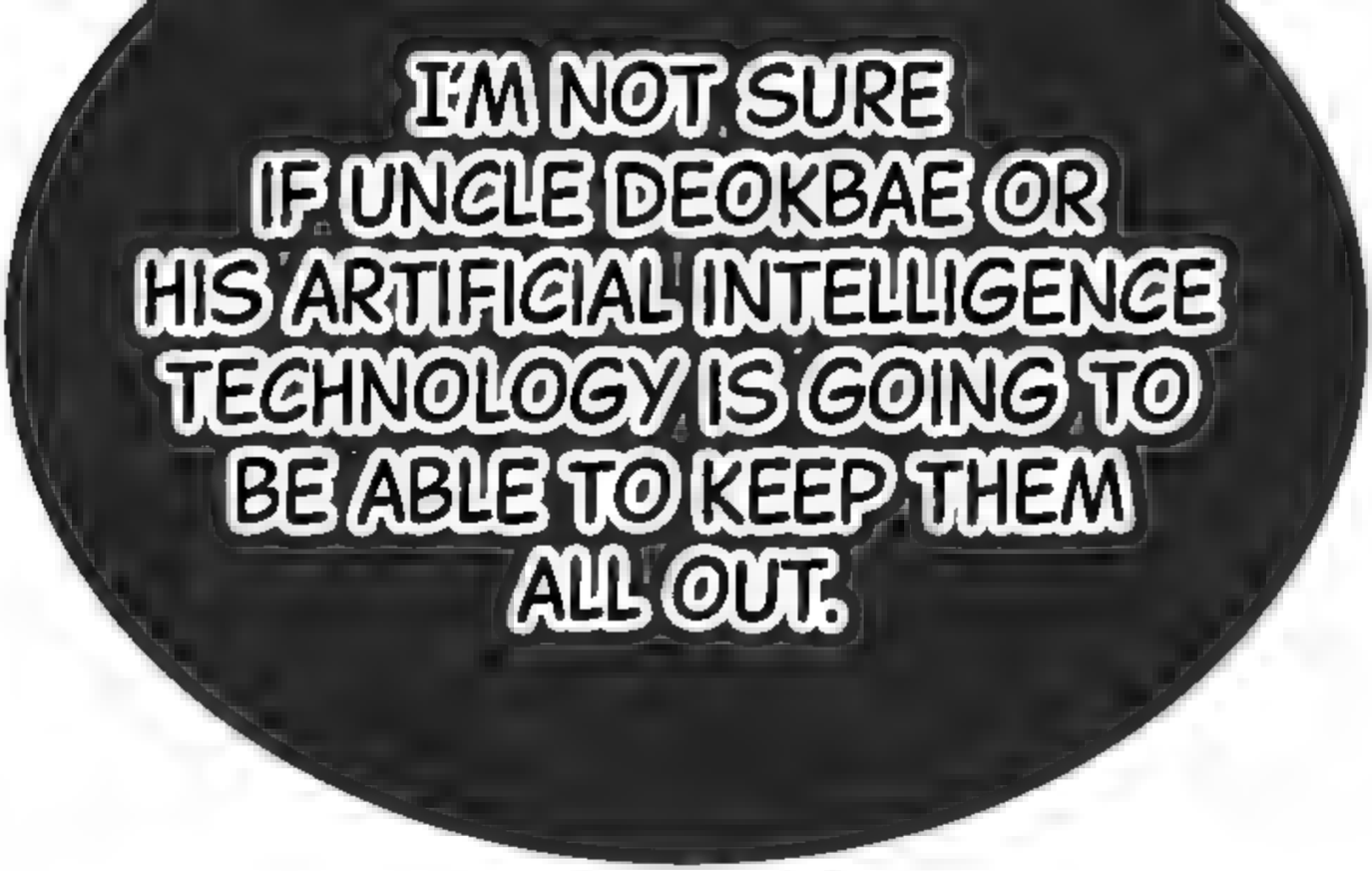

THAT

...THAT
TURNED THIS ENTIRE
WORLD INTO A LUMP
OF BUGS.

AND NOW,
JISEOK, YOU DECIDED
TO DIP YOUR HANDS
INTO ADMINISTRATIVE
ACCESS.

CHRONO
LIFE HAS THE BEST LEGAL TEAM OUT THERE.
AND THEY'VE GOT A TON OF THINGS THEY COULD ACCUSE YOU OF.

THESE BUGS
WILL INEVITABLY
SPREAD TO CHRONO
LIFE.


I'M NOT SURE
IF UNCLE DEOKBAE OR
HIS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
TECHNOLOGY IS GOING TO
BE ABLE TO KEEP THEM
ALL OUT.

JISEOK!
YOU DID IT!

NOT ONLY DID YOU DESTROY ANOTHER WORLD, THE PLACE YOU LOVE SO MUCH,
BUT YOU EVEN KILLED ALL OF YOUR BELOVED FRIENDS!

YOU TRULY
ARE THE BEST
SWEETHEART (GIRL)
ASK FOR

THANK YOU
FOR ALL OF YOUR
WORK!

NOW.
GET LOST.

Hiatus

LOOK, JISEOK.
NOW YOUR SHOVEL IS JUST AN ORDINARY TOOL WITH NO SPECIAL ABILITIES.

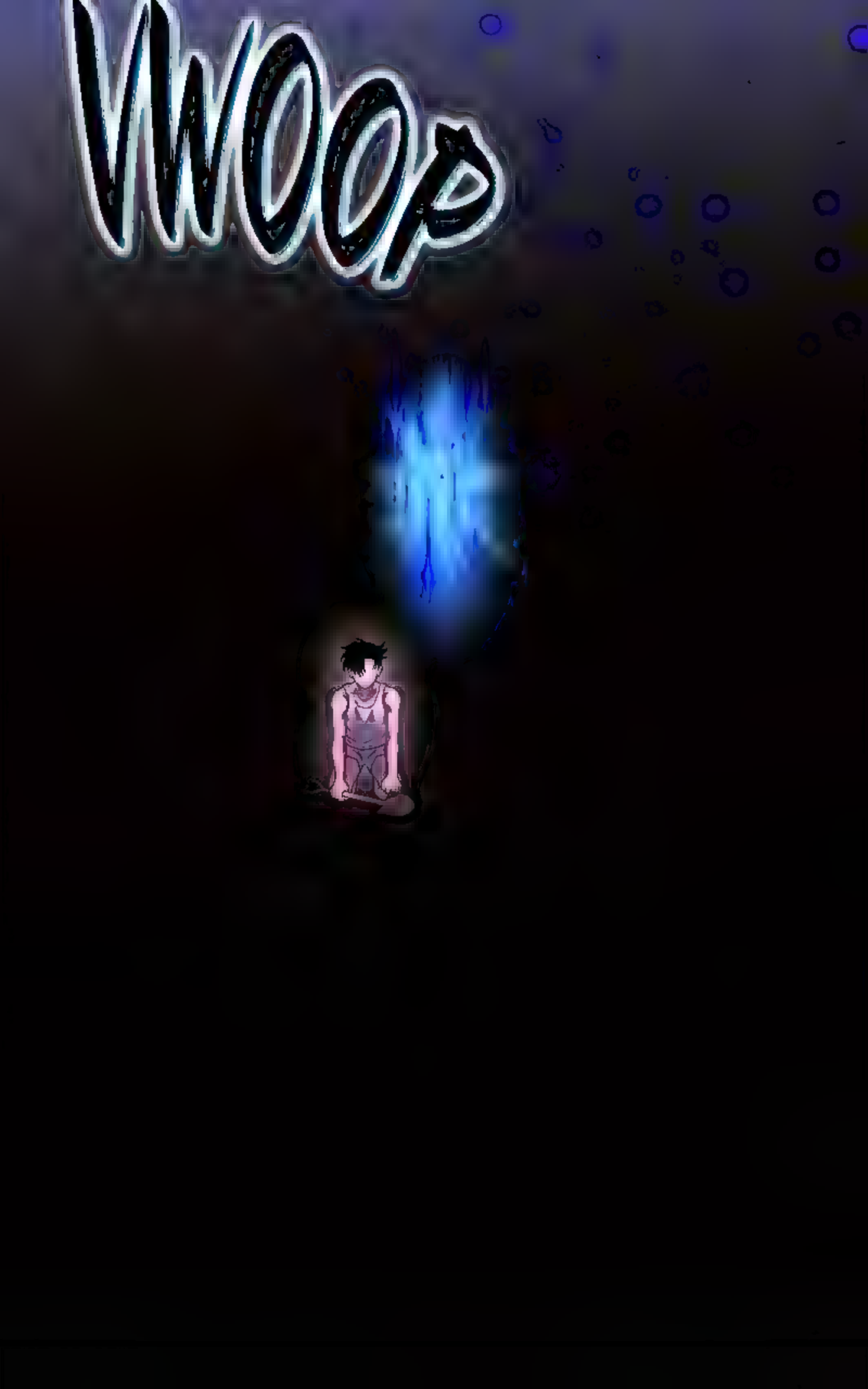
ISN'T IT
ALL JUST SO
EMPTY AND SAD?
IT'S LIKE THE LIFE
OF A HUMAN.

NOW YOU

QUIETLY STAY PUT...
WHILE I GO AND ATTEND TO BUSINESS, OKAY?

I'VE GOT A LOT TO PREPARE...

IF I'M GOING TO FRAME YOU FOR ALL OF THIS.


Woop

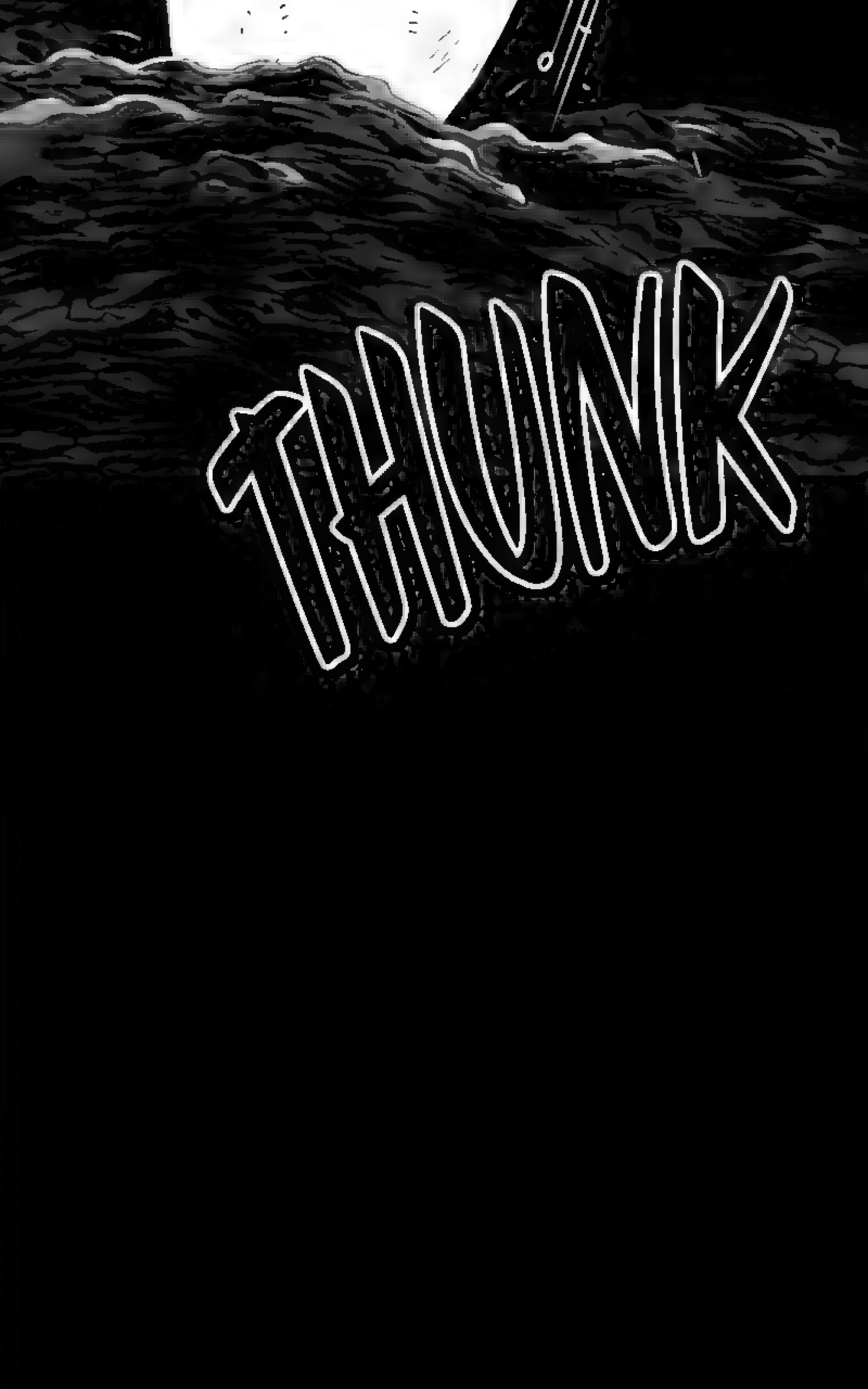
...WE CAN STILL TRY.

WE'VE
DONE EVERYTHING
TOGETHER UP
UNTIL NOW.

YOU MADE ME WHATEVER I WANTED, DIDN'T YOU?!

SCREW THE BUGS! WE WON'T LET THEM BRING US DOWN!

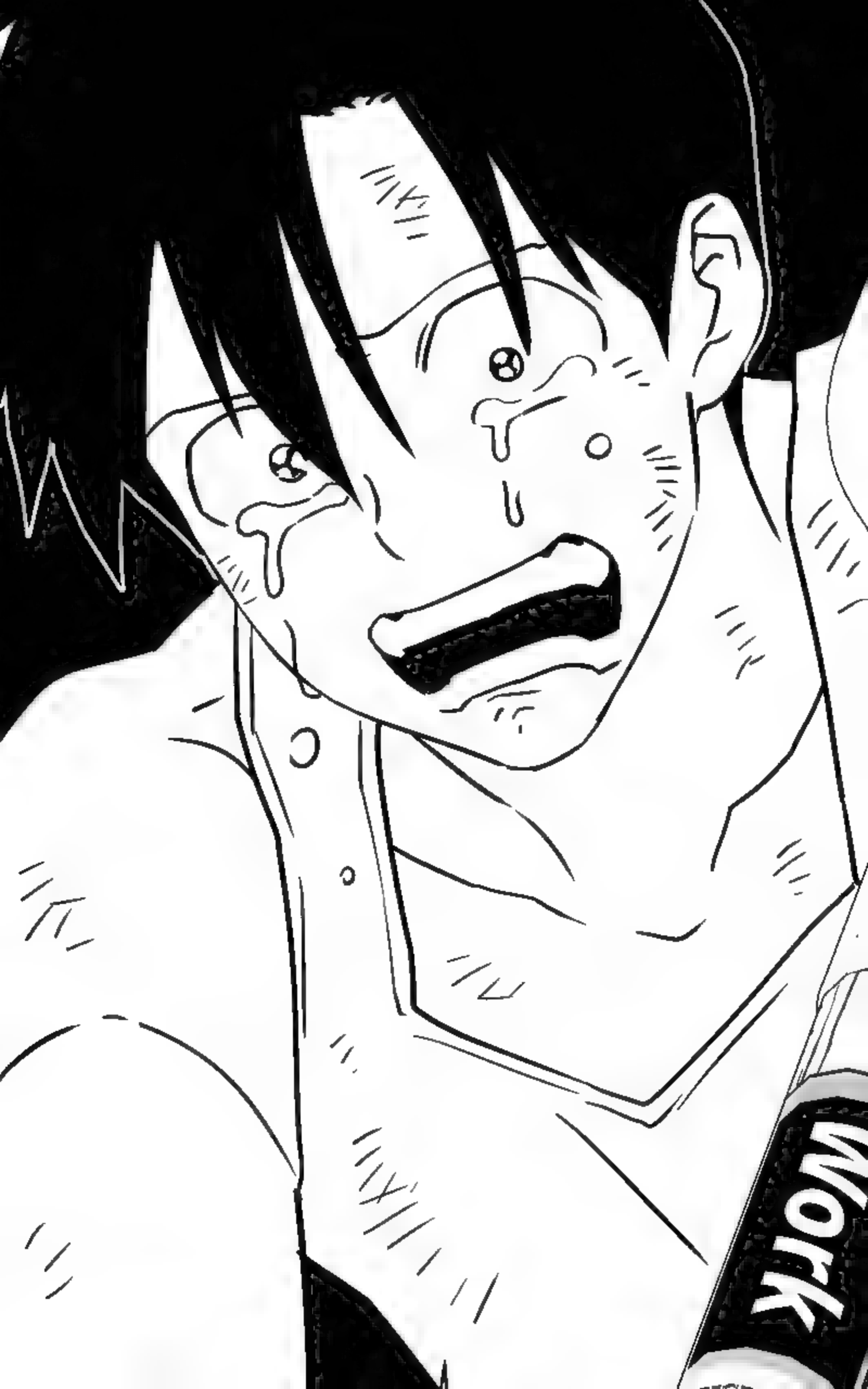
COME ON.
MAKE ME A WAY
TO ESCAPE...


THUNK

LET ME CONTACT HARDCORE LEVELING WARRIOR...
DIG
DIG
DIG
OR AT LEAST PEACE...
DIG

DIG DIG
TELL THEM TO GET ME OUT OF HERE...

BRING
BACK...

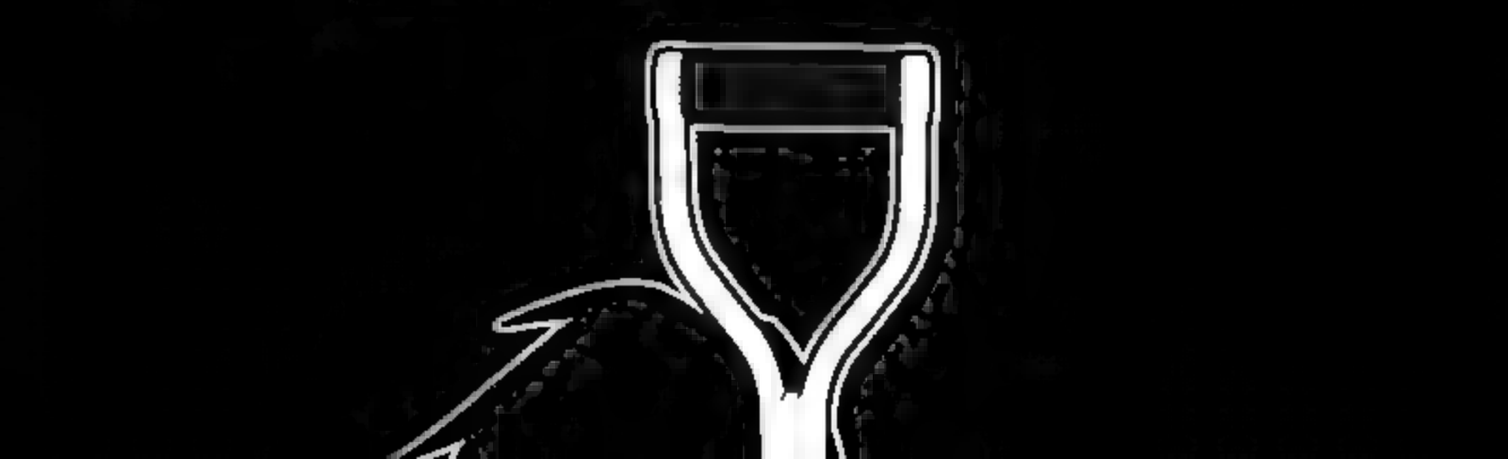

WORK

...MY
FRIENDS!

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

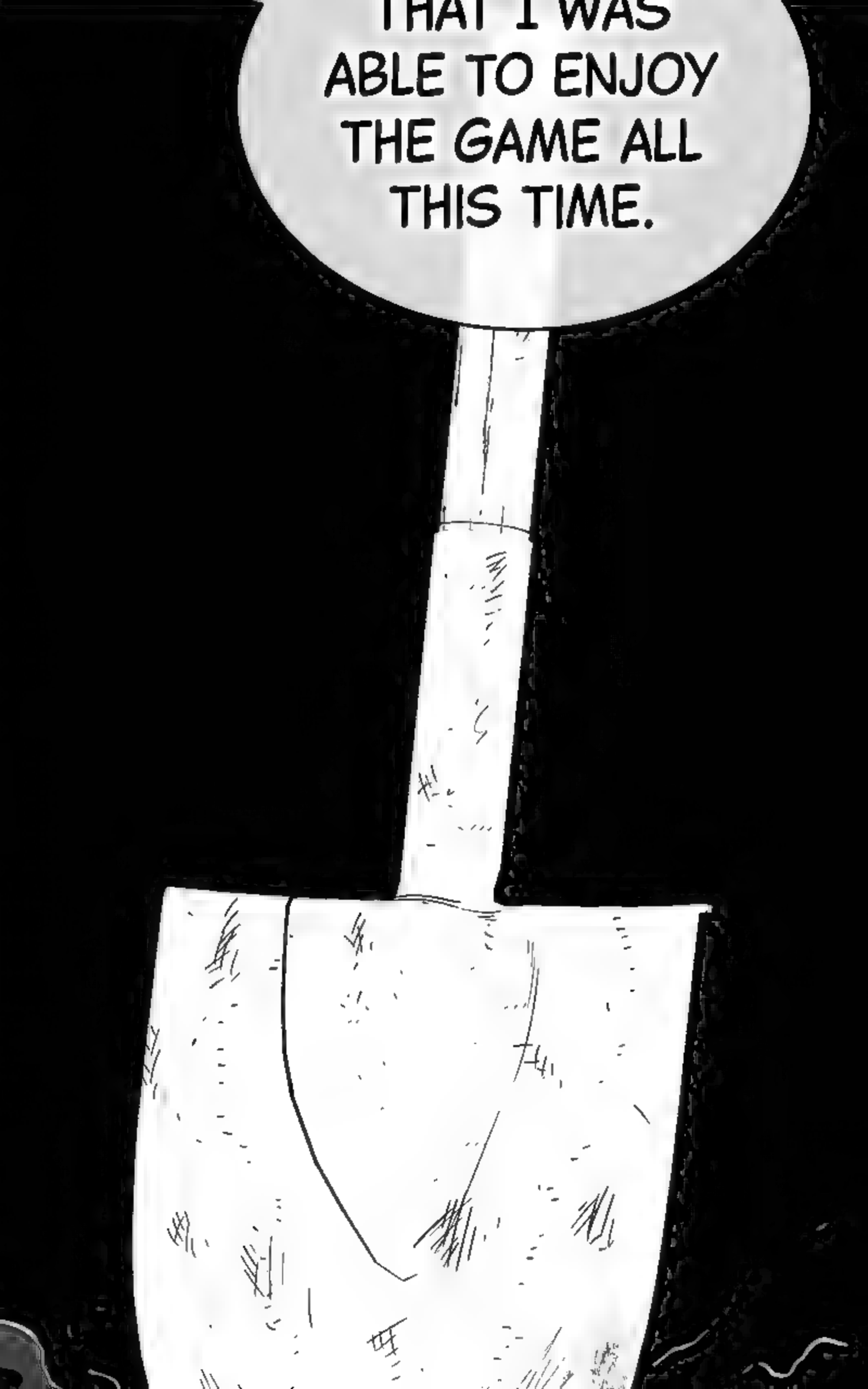


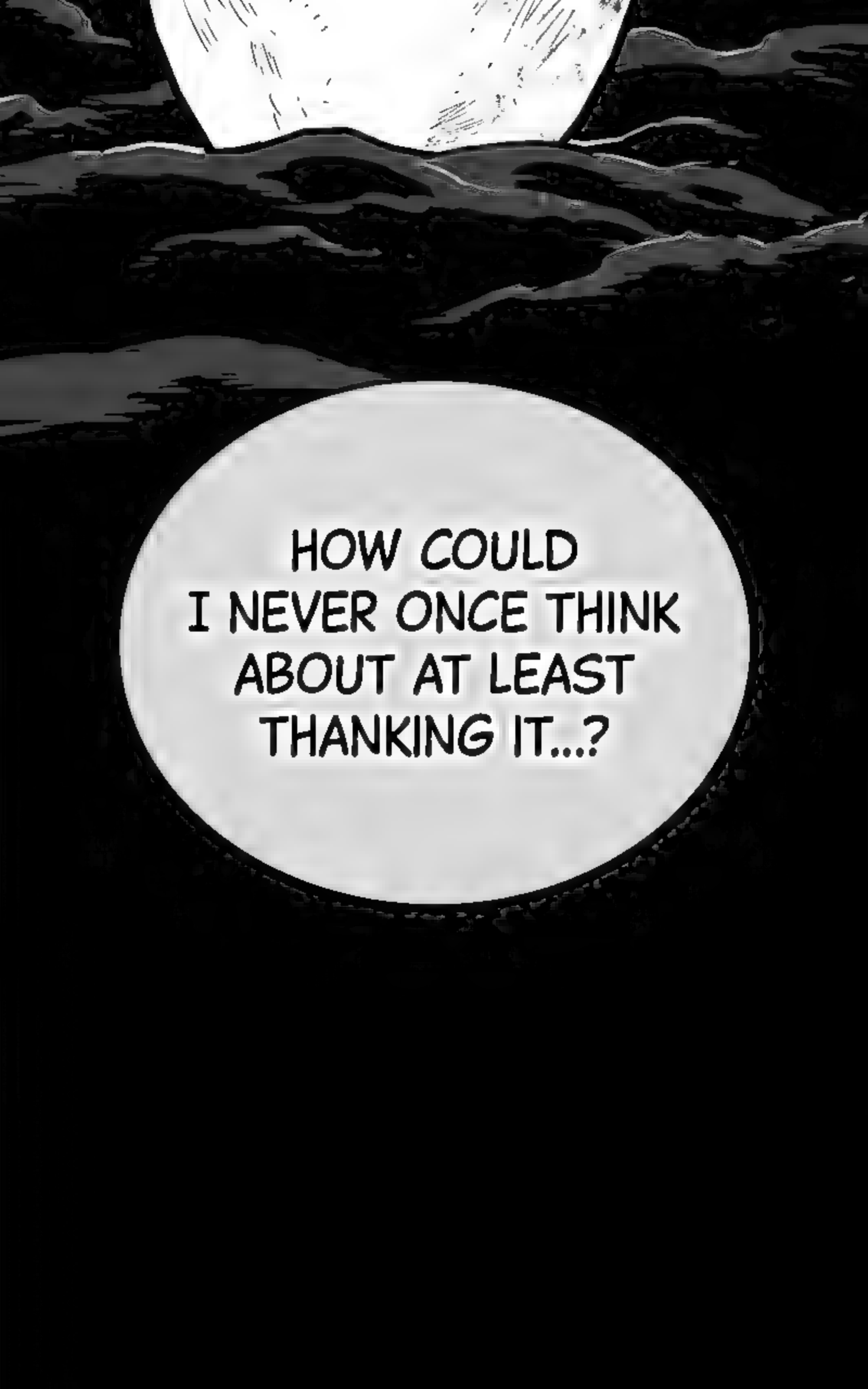
HUFF
HUFF

WORK
ALL I DO

ALL I DO
IS WHINE...

IT'S
THANKS TO THIS
SHOVEL...


THAT I WAS ABLE TO ENJOY THE GAME ALL THIS TIME.

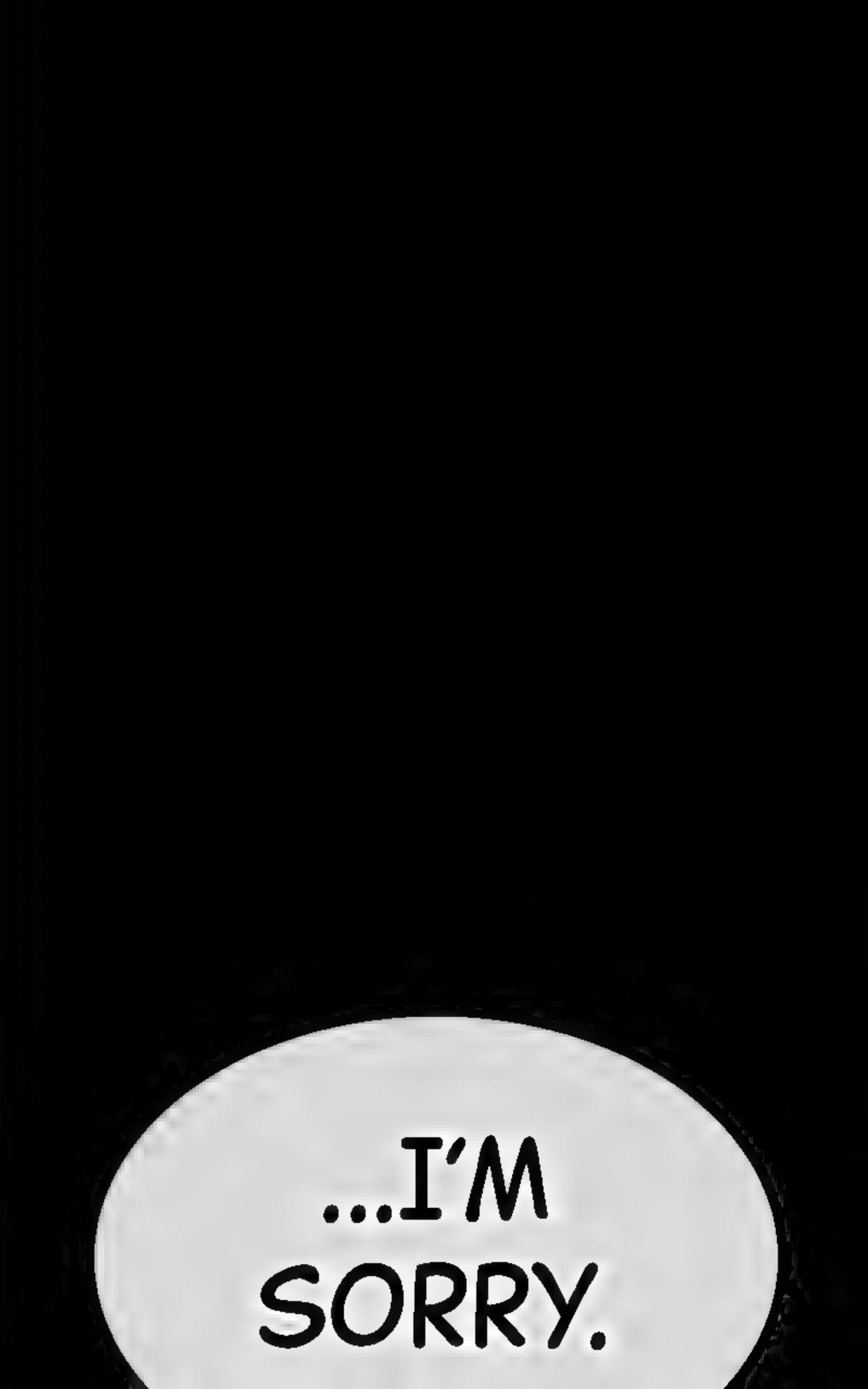

HOW COULD
I NEVER ONCE THINK
ABOUT AT LEAST
THANKING IT...?

EVER SINCE I
STARTED THIS GAME...

...TO THIS MOMENT NOW...

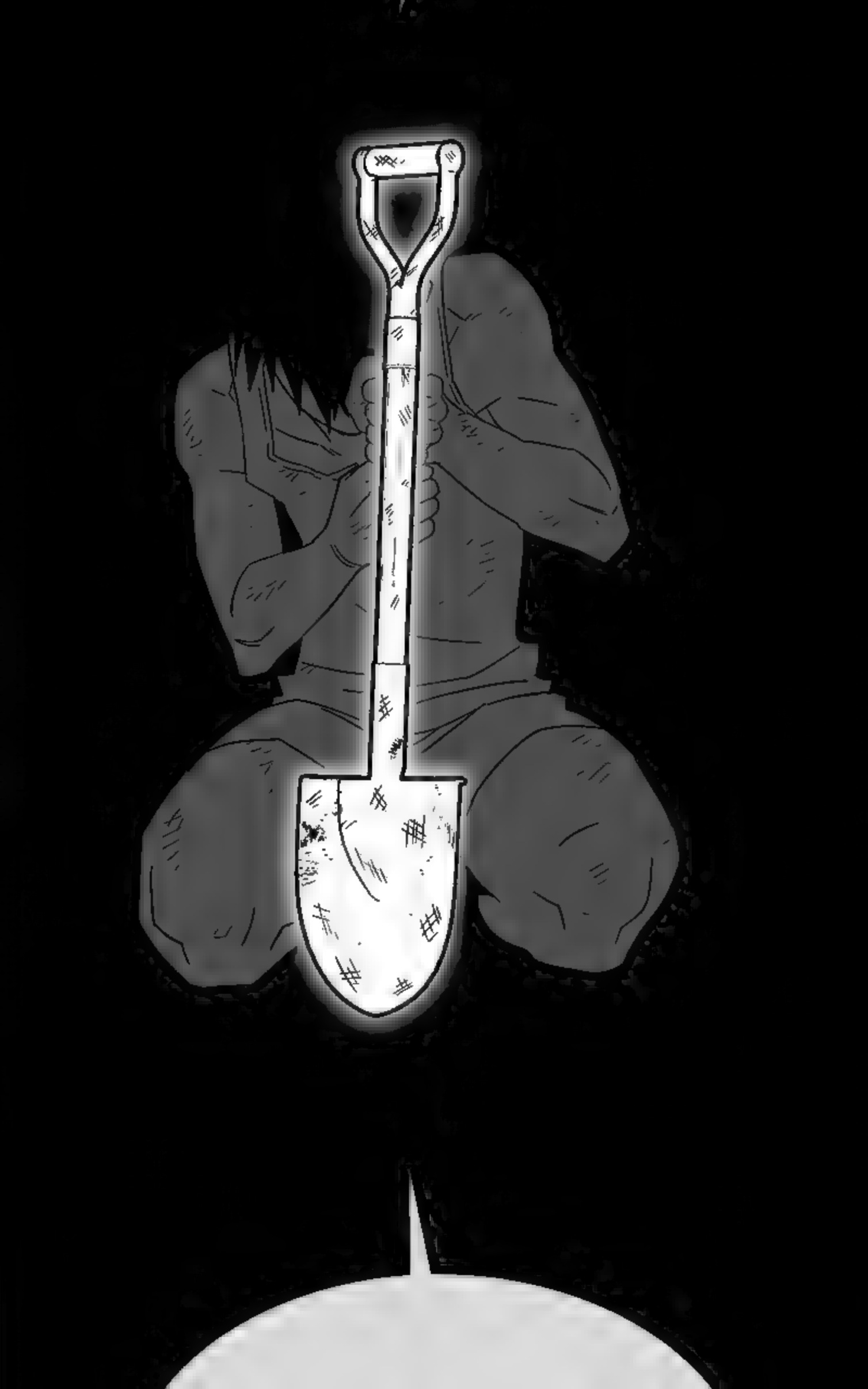
...THIS SHOVEL HAS BEEN WITH ME...

THIS SHOVEL HAS BEEN MY PARTNER!


...I'M
SORRY.

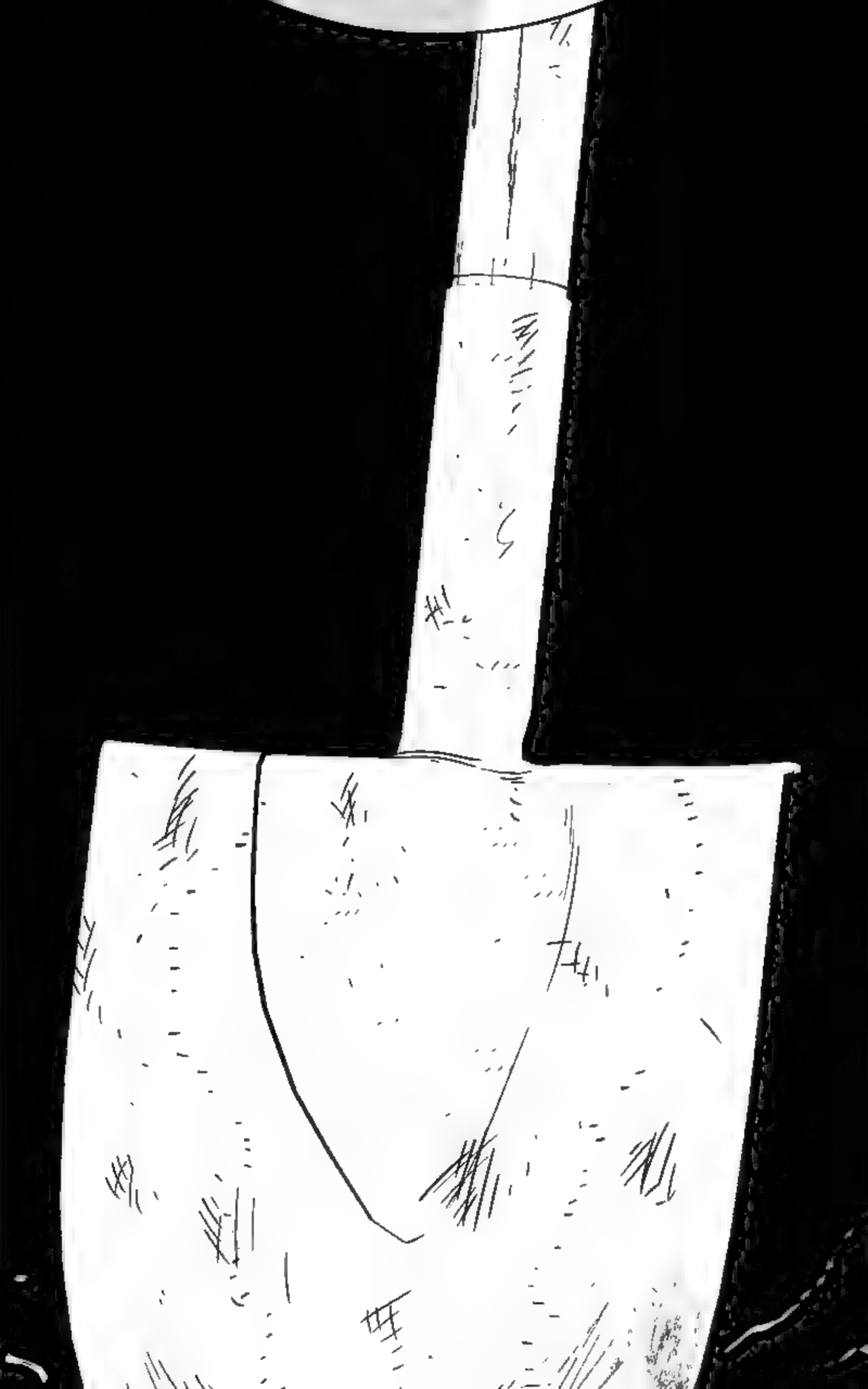
I'VE BEEN
SO UNGRATEFUL
THIS WHOLE TIME,
HAVEN'T I?

FORGET
THE BUGS...



YOU'VE ALWAYS TREATED ME RIGHT.

THANK YOU...

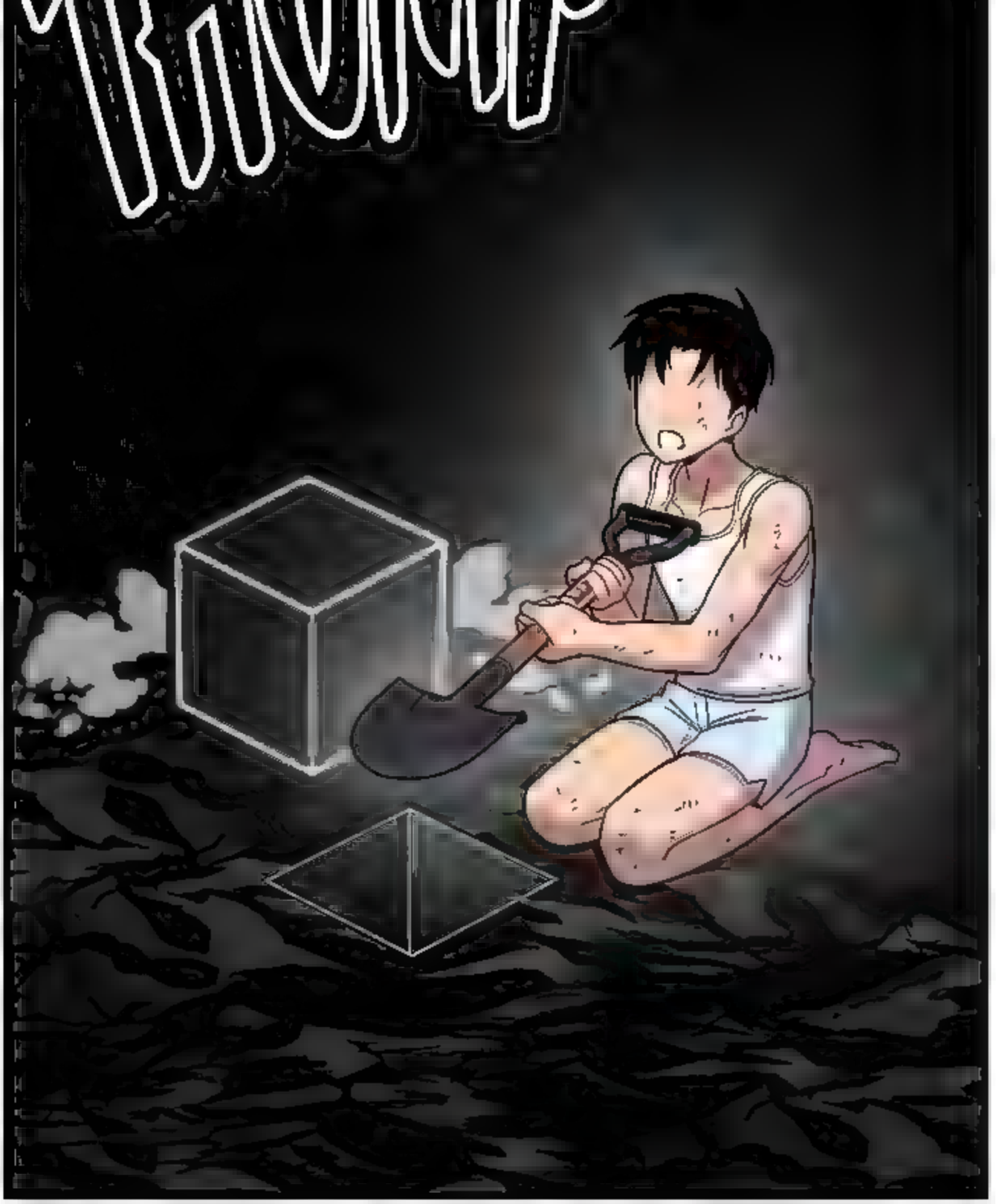


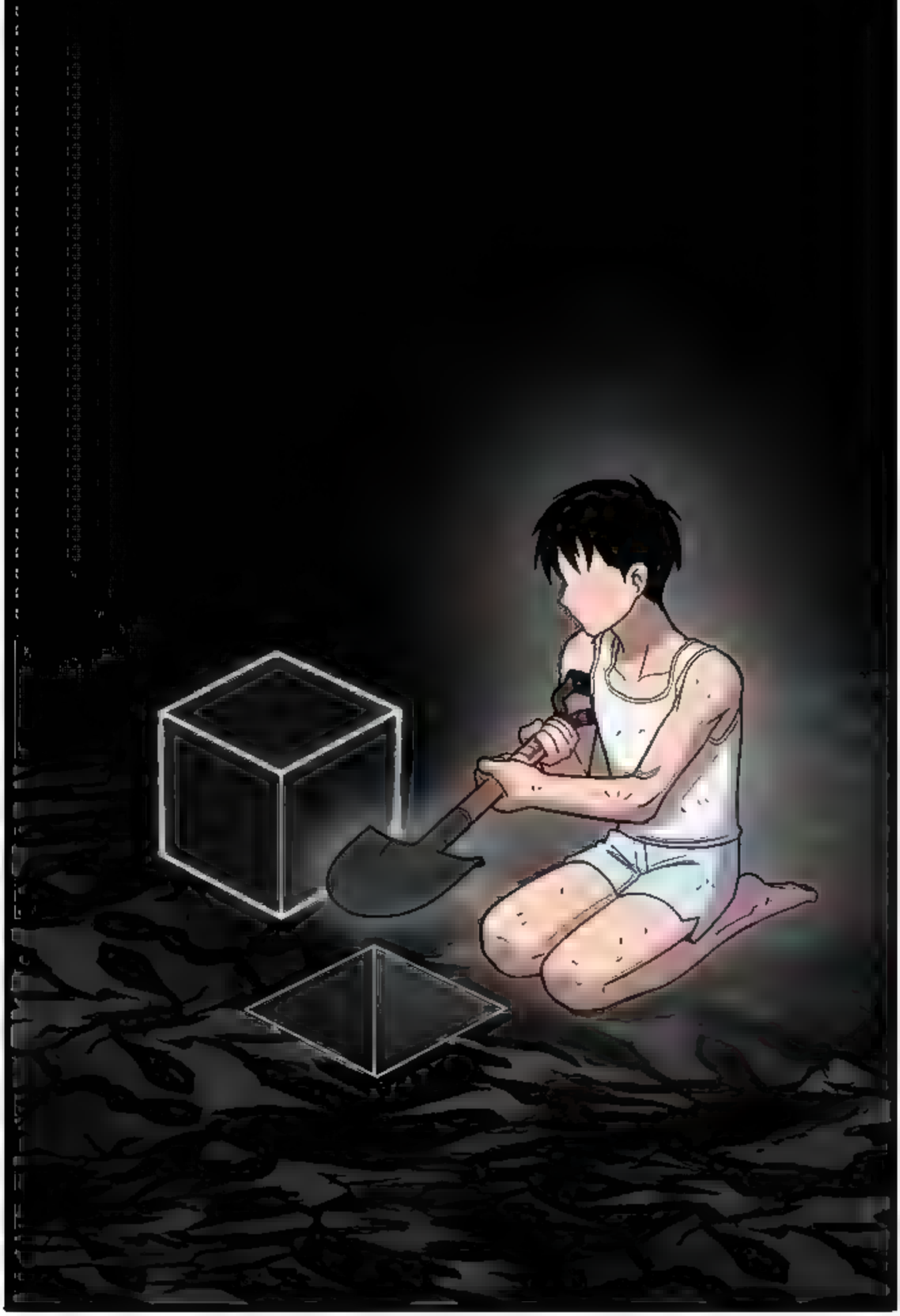
...PARTNER.

DING
MASTER PRIVILEGE: YOU HAVE AUTHORITY OVER ALL OF ANOTHER WORLD.

BUMP

SLAM


THUMP



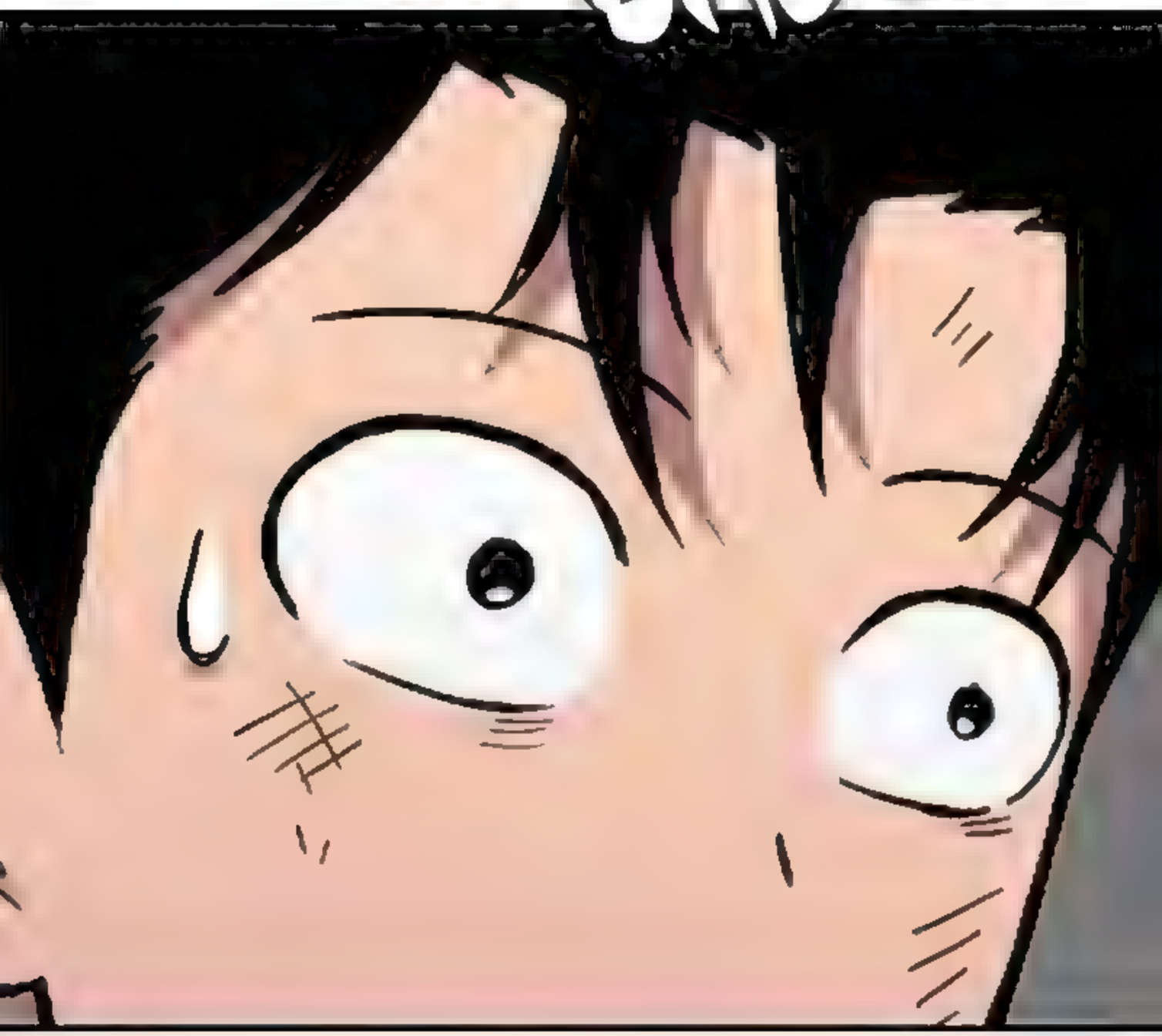
BADUM

BADUM

BADUM

BADUM

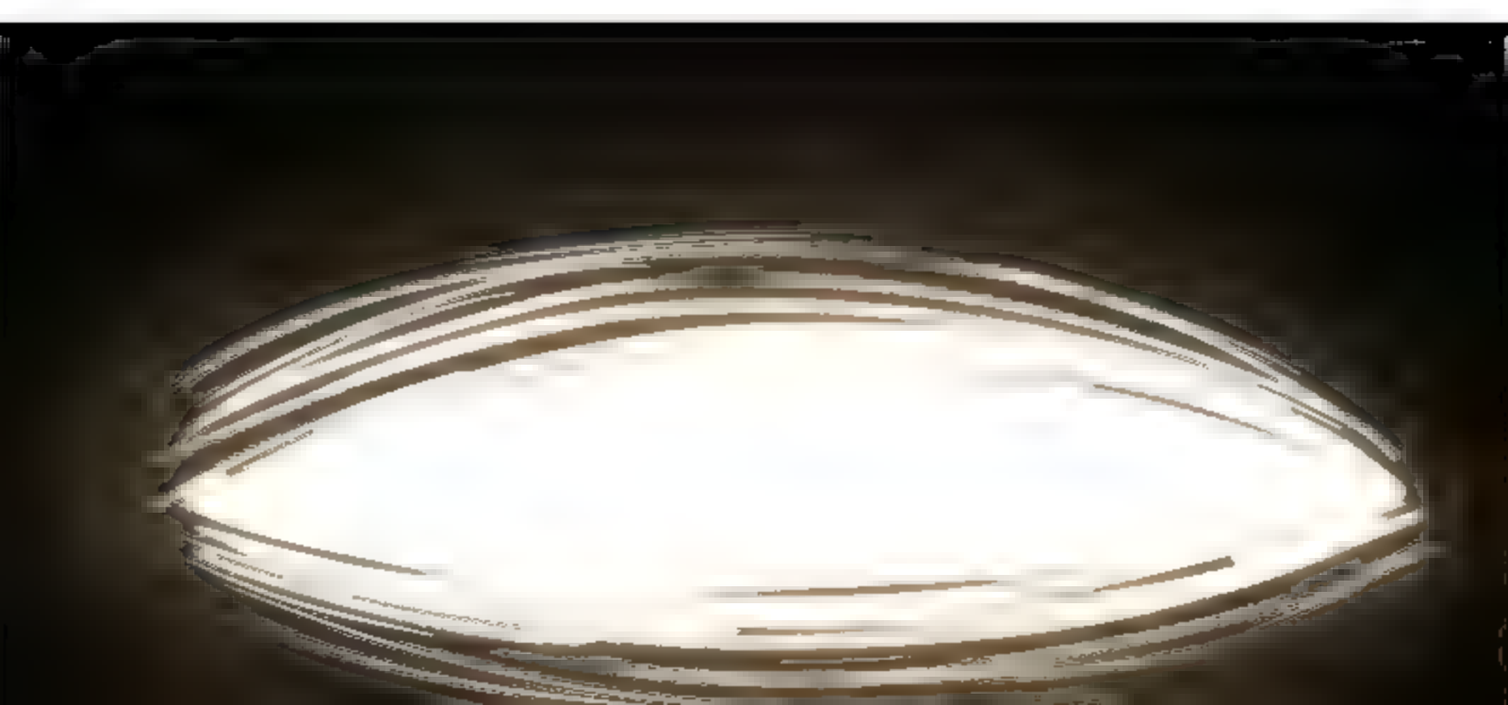
BADUM



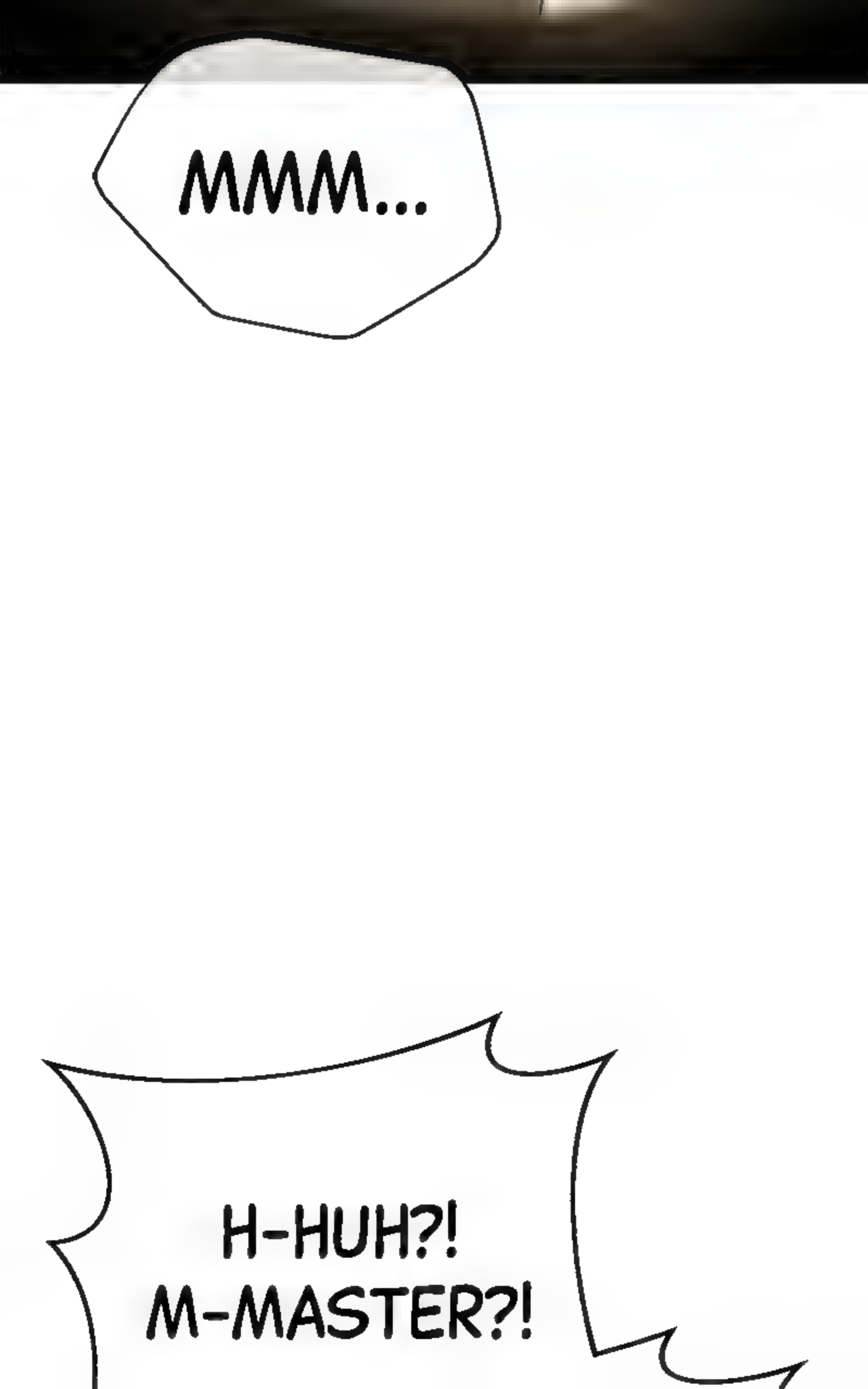
BADUM

BADUM

BADUM



MMM...


MMM...
H-HUH?!
M-MASTER?!

YOU'RE ALIVE!
WHERE'S YURIA?!

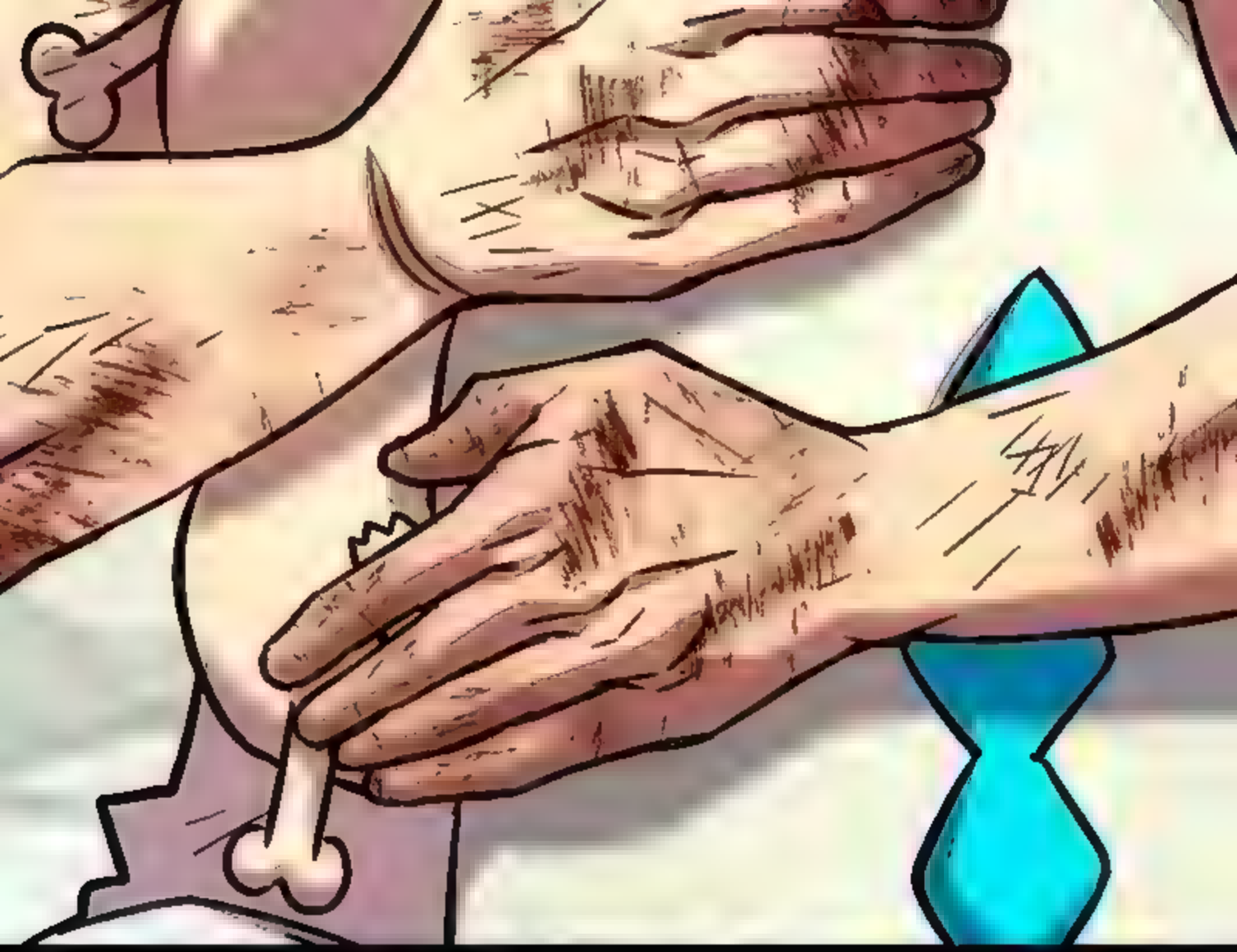
SHAKE
SHAKE

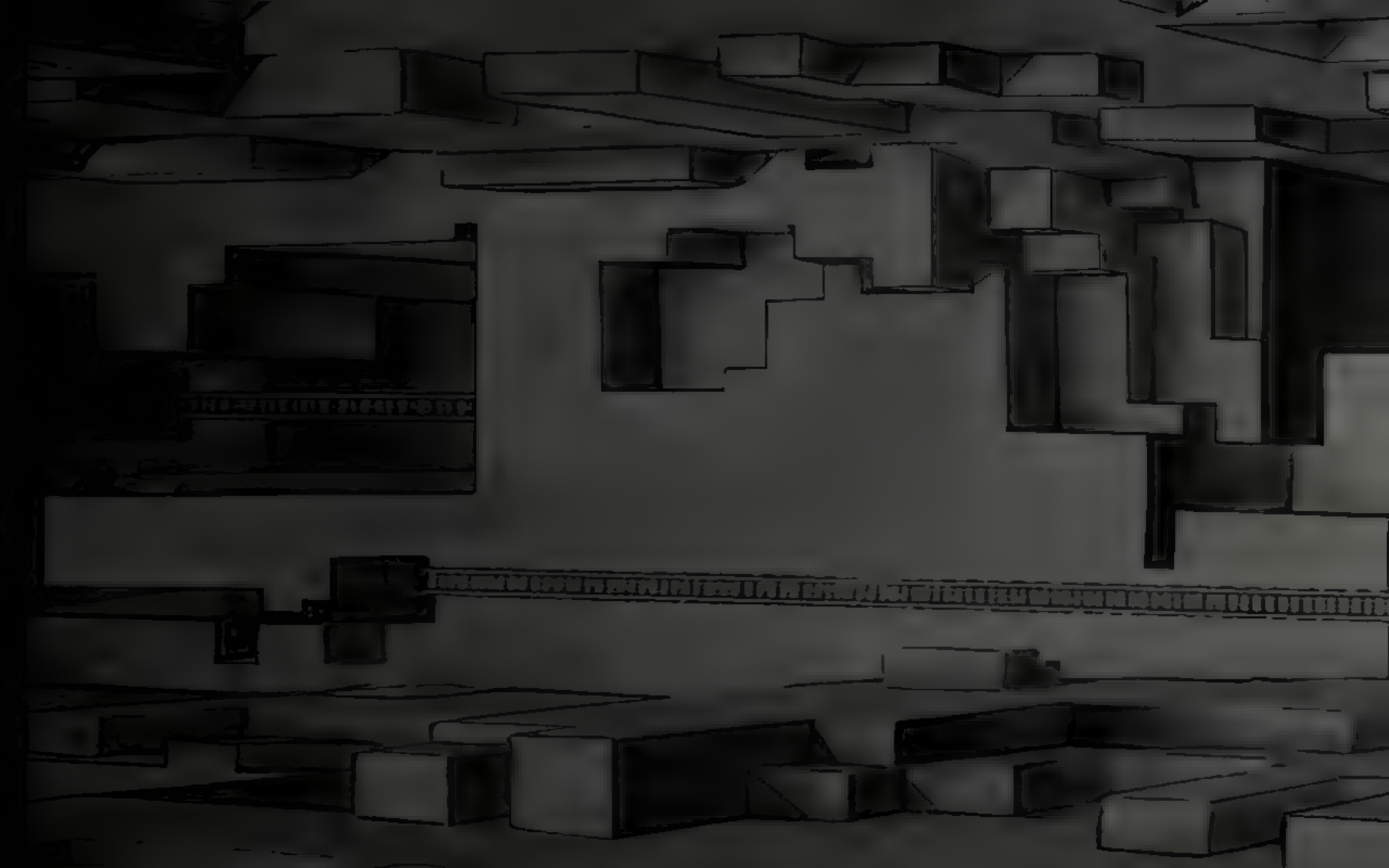
AND WHAT'S WITH THESE TATTERED CLOTHES?!
ALSO, WHY'S IT SO DARK IN HERE?! I'M SCARED!

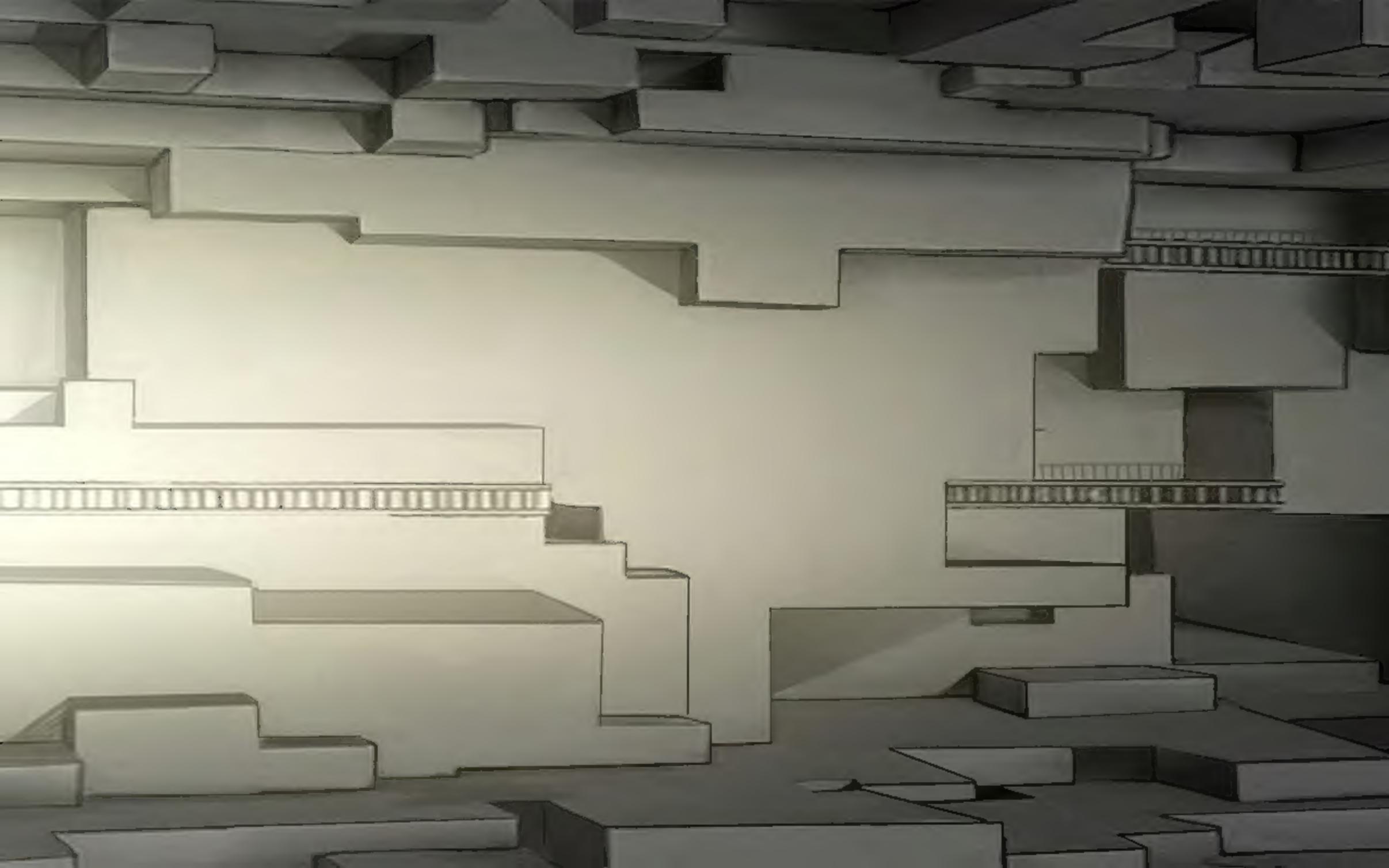
WOOF!

YOU KNOW WHAT?! LET'S JUST RU--
HUH...?

HUG







DID YOU TWO HAVE A GOOD NAP?

GOOD NAP!

Original Story, Storyboard **Lee Know**

Art **Sehoon Kim, studio HOHOEE**

PD Yopy, Kim Minhye, Kim Jiyeon

Planning / Production 3RACHA X HHE